Show Collies
Rough and Smooth Coated

H. E. Packwood

DEDICATED TO

THE REV. HANS F. HAMILTON,

Honorary President of the Collie Club;

one of the earliest Pioneers of the Cult of the Show Collie, and still a staunch and true friend to the Fancy after a long and strenuous life in pursuit of the Ideal.

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THE AUTHOR.

SHOW COLLIES:

ROUGH AND SMOOTH COATED.

A COMPLETE HISTORY.

A Book containing Valuable Practical
Information, and
Matter Interesting to All.

BY

H. E. PACKWOOD.

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56 ILLUSTRATIONS.

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.. Introductory ..

Though we live in a period of remarkable progress, in which kennel interests have proved one of the enterprising elements of the world's advancement, it is said that one may inquire in vain for an up-to-date publication on the Collie. In such progressive times, when everybody desires the very latest in everything, it is natural that the Collie fancier should expect his literary purchase to accord the variety of his adoption modernised treatment.

True it is, to my own knowledge, that there exists a demand for such a handbook. That the compilation of the work might be in more willing writer's hands, no one would more readily admit than the author; but having received a pressing invitation to undertake the task, I have been influenced in accepting the honour of authorship by a recognition of the obvious truth that literary merit is not an essential to the success of a practical monograph on the Collie. I therefore claim the indulgence of my literary friends, as I deny any literary ambition or pretensions whatever. The success of this publication must depend upon a straightforward endeavour to guide the fancier student on to the nearest road to success. In this, I rely upon an expert knowledge of my subject, gained by many years of practical experience and earnest study of the complex problems that beset the path of every fancier.

There is an ever-increasing number of fanciers, the majority being made up of beginners and novices who devote much thought and a considerable portion of their time to the breeding and exhibiting of the pedigree Collie.

It may be said that many of these novices, who have spent years in pursuit of their labour of love, make no substantial progress in their hobby, but remain novices to the end.

This may often be attributed to a want of opportunity to gain experience; circumstances prevent attendance at shows; residential and business ties often deny them the advantages of companionship with more experienced fanciers. Such handicapped enthusiasts naturally thirst for the latest literary guide on a subject that is the pleasure of their leisure life.

These tyros of the fancy may be said to be the best pupils of the author, and it is the interests of such that this monograph is intended to serve. It is the hope of the author that it may also prove useful and interesting to all, as being in touch with modern conditions and requirements.

In the chapter on the history of the Collie, I have, in order to make the monograph as communicative of as much useful information as possible, gone rather minutely into the details of the lineage of the most important competitors at our early shows. Hereditary influence is an acknowledged important factor in all breeding of stock; therefore a thoughtful breeder will not ignore the valuable reference it supplies to the links that connect the pedigrees of our present-day Collies with their earliest progenitors. The advent to the fancy of old-time breeders, whose exertions have conduced in no small measure to the improvement and popularity of the Collie, is also a feature of this chapter.

My readers should be able to connect, link by link, every one of our present-day champions with the earliest show specimens of nearly fifty years ago; and the information given on the strains that have been most successful should prove of service to breeders. I have found it possible to deal only with the best dogs of the period. To have included the more noted specimens of the other sex that are worthy

of notice would have necessitated more space than is at my disposal.

In claiming great intelligence for the Collie, I do not mean to infer that this is exclusively the possession of the Collie; I recognise that there are other varieties that show great intelligence.

The illustrations, some of which do not do justice to the dogs they represent, have been selected and arranged for the sole purpose of assisting the reader by making more lucid the descent of the typical Collie.

The illustrations also provide some proof of the arguments on the principles of breeding.

I am indebted to the Rev. Hans Hamilton, Mr. C. H. Wheeler, and Mr. W. P. Arkwright for the descriptive particulars of some of the Collies of the earliest exhibition period which are given in the chapter of history. I am also glad to acknowledge the favours of the well-known gentlemen who have permitted me to publish their views on the points of the Collie. These contributions constitute a unique collection of talented learning, given in writing, as it were, in a nutshell.

My readers will readily understand that there are many more good judges and worthy fanciers who are not mentioned herein. There are also numbers of good Collies whose names do not appear here, but this is due to the impossible; perhaps it is their misfortune, but certainly not their fault. The writer hopes he has no enemies among fanciers, and trusts what is written here will be accepted as in good faith as given entirely in the interests of the Collie.

THE HOMESTEAD, YARDLEY WOOD.

Chapter I.—The Collie: Its Origin.

The student who would seek enlightenment on the origin of the Collie is unlikely to emerge from his researches with any tangible reward for his trouble, as there is a veil of uncertainty obscuring a knowledge of the subject that has hitherto proved impenetrable. Recognised authorities, naturalists and authors, have, as the result of exhaustive research, provided us with interesting information, and have propounded some more or less plausible theories, but there is an absence of anything authentic that would assist the fancier student to form any reliable conclusion as to the origin of his favourite breed.

A monograph may be incomplete that fails to provide a clue to the origin of its subject, so, failing a positive clue, the most intelligible theory may assist the beginner to the most common-sense solution of the mystery, and be interesting, although it seems obvious that no substantial result is likely to succeed any contribution to a subject that is, and must remain, in the absence of authentic records, purely theoretical. However, it is interesting to know that great antiquity is claimed and admitted for the Collie.

The naturalist, Buffon, declared the Collie the oldest known breed of dog. It seems certain that this conclusion was based upon a belief that the ancient Sheepdog of remote ages was the direct parent stock of the Collie. There is much that favours the acceptance of this theory as a reasonable one. Though not generally accepted as correct, it is as intelligible and admissible as any. If we had conclusive evidence that the Collie is the direct

descendant of the ancient Sheepdog, we then could trace the lineage of our favourite thousands of years back, for there is evidence that the Romans were so far advanced in knowledge of the utility of the dog that a classification was drawn up. Three divisions were recognised, namely:—I. (canes villartiori), watch dogs. II. (canes pastorales), sheepdogs. III. (canes venatici), hunting dogs.

We also have evidence that in the time of Job the Sheepdog tended and defended the flocks.

The enthusiast does not need a very strong imagination to persuade him to connect the modern Sheepdog with prehistoric days of early civilisation, and its origin to the wolf or jackal.

Professor Bell conjectured that the wolf was the progenitor of the domesticated dog.

Without venturing any expression of opinion on the origin of other varieties of dogs, it does not seem unreasonable to entertain the possibility of the Collie having descended from the ancient Sheepdog, and the wolf or jackal as being the wild root from which the modern cultivated flower of perfection has sprung. We know that the wolf and jackal will readily breed with the dog, and that their progeny is fertile. The Collie is not dissimilar in characteristic attributes or general appearance to either.

During three years' campaigning in South Africa, the author had unusual opportunity of observation by actual contact with the wolf and jackal. My first acquaintance was made in Portuguese East Africa, during night duty, and it must be admitted that, to one uninitiated into big game companionship, the close proximity of a big variety class of wild animals is apt to make a hair-stirring impression; but in most things familiarity breeds contempt, and later, during a trek through Mashonaland and Rhodesia, some of them proved "billets for some of my

bullets." The impression formed of this experience was such as to convince one of the remarkable resemblance of the Collie in important characteristics to the jackal.

Unfortunately we have nothing to enlighten us on the characteristics and general appearance of the ancient Sheepdog.

It may not be inconsistent with logical thinking to allow that man in early civilisation snared a whelp and trained him to companionship and usefulness in his early occupation of sheep-minding. Hence the original Sheepdog.

The Romans may have introduced the Sheepdog into England, as it is notorious that armies seldom sail without their canine stowaways. It is possible that the Picts and Scots captured some of these Sheepdogs, with the cattle looted from the English, after the departure of the Romans, from which the Scotch Collie has descended.

It is allowed that the word "Collie" is of Scotch origin, and we know that the Scottish shepherds of an early period fostered the breed. They were guided by a natural desire to produce a working Sheepdog capable of great endurance necessitated by the severe climatic conditions inseparable from sheep-herding in Scotland, and by careful selection they produced the intelligent, lithesome, active Sheepdog, the early fashion-plate from which our typical beautiful Collie has been moulded.

No doubt the heavy coat possessed by them has been assisted by climatic influences, but we may safely pay homage to the Scottish shepherds of forgotten days for the early improvement of the Collie Sheepdog model, from which our up-to-date perfected show dog has been produced.

Chapter II. - Illustrations.

The author has bestowed much thought in the selection of the Collies illustrated. The object has been to make them answer a more useful purpose than merely supplement the monograph with interesting pictures of celebrities. Instruction by illustration is often more intelligible and convincing that a volume of writings. This estimation of their educational value has influenced the author to endeavour to select and arrange them here so that each one may be instructive. In the chapter of history the direct line of the descent of the typical strains is shown by the dogs portrayed. The way the best Collies have descended, and the influence of heredity, are clearly proved. The illustrations provide many studies of true Collie type, and the writer's advice to the novice is, do not pass one casually, as a study may reveal important information.

Some of the illustrations are not faithful portraits of the Collies they represent. The first is Old Cockie, taken when ten years old, and thought the likeness imparts but little reliable information as to his merit as a Collie, the expert will recognise a semblance of true Collie type. The photograph of Ch. Madge was taken when she was two years old. It does not do her quality justice, but it is the only one obtainable; however, it is quite sufficient to show that she was a typical, good headed Collie. Ch. Metchley Wonder is badly served. I knew the dog well, and the illustration fails to do him justice; at his best he was a grand Collie. Ch. Christopher, taken profile, has a sour expression, shows a lippiness, and hollowness under the eye that was not so apparent in life; in fact, Christopher was a very good headed dog. The reader may feast

upon Ch. Portington Bar None's head, shape, legs, and feet. Ch. Squire of Tytton's illustration is an example of modern art, and as represented here is a Collie with hardly a fault.

Ch. Wellesbourne Conqueror shows grand body, coat, legs and feet; a substantial, sound-looking Collie, with a long head which looks as if it was short of expression. Ch. Parbold Piccolo shows perfect ear carriage and a rare frill. The lessons to be learnt from his head are the signs of too much lip, and depth in skull and muzzle. In Anfield Model, Parbold Peacock, Billesley Briton and Bountiful will be found a profitable study in type and quality.

BLUE MARLED COLLIES.—It has been difficult to obtain portraits of Collies of this colour. The illustration of Blue Ruin is from a painting owned by her breeder, Mr. W. Arkwright, who kindly had it photographed for the author, which has enabled him to present the only illustration seen of her. It will be recognised that the eye is hardly natural, but my readers may allow that this was more the fault of the artist than in the Collie.

SMOOTH COLLIES.—The illustration of Ch. Heatherfield Tip shows too much coat. The remainder are a very fine collection of typical, beautiful quality Collies.

It should be noticed that the good points and the faults pointed out for the instruction of novices are those apparent in the illustrations. The Collies portrayed in the chapter of history prove conclusively the influence of heredity, and illuminate by illustration the most successful strains. There have been other champions of other blood, but they have not established permanent influential strains, and the illustrations presented represent the greatest champions of modern times.

The following abridged tracing of the successful blood line will supply a key to the illustrations.

Old Cockie, pedigree not known.

Ch. Charlemagne, a grandson of Old Cockie.

Ch. Metchley Wonder, a grandson of Ch. Charlemagne.

Ch. Christopher, by Ch. Metchley Wonder.

Edgbaston Marvel, by Ch. Christopher.

Ch. Portington Bar None, by Edgbaston Marvel.

Edgbaston Plasmon, inbred on both sides to Edgbaston Marvel and Portington Bar None.

Ch. Ormskirk Emerald, a grandson of Edgbaston Marvel.

Heacham Galopin, a grandson of Ormskirk Emerald.

Ch. Wishaw Clinker, a grandson of Heacham Galopin.

Ch. Squire of Tytton, a grandson of Ch. Wishaw Clinker.

Unfortunately it has been impossible to obtain photos. of some notable dogs that would have brought the relationships of the line closer. Ch. Wellesbourne Conqueror was a grandson of Edgbaston Marvel, and much inbred to Christopher blood; Ch. Parbold Piccolo, by Ch. Wellesbourne Conqueror; Ormskirk Olympian, by Parbold Piccolo; Ch. Wishaw Leader, by Ormskirk Olympian; Ch. Anfield Model, by Parbold Piccolo; Ch. Parbold Peacock, by Anfield Model; Billesley Briton and Bountiful by Ch. Parbold Peacock.

The foregoing instruction indicates that the illustrations are of unusual interest, as illustrating the source and descent of the typical Collie.

The Collie which appears on the outside cover of this book is Mr. C. H. Wheeler's Edgbaston Plasmon.

Hans F Hamilton

Chapter III.—The Collie: Its History.

The history of the Collie as a show dog naturally dates from the earliest exhibitions where Collies were first exhibited. The history of the Collie is the history of the fancy. To make this chapter more realistic and more interesting, I purpose noting the advent as exhibitors of the more noted old-time breeders. Some have long ceased to answer the roll call, but they still live in the memory of their surviving comrades, who are never more happy than when reviving associations of the good old times of the early school of exhibitors. These early pioneers of the cult remember better times than are experiencd by the paced racing methods of up-to-date exhibition life. Not so many years ago the big shows meant a great gathering of fanciers, who were jovial, friendly, and on pleasure bent. They would arrive the day before the show, be in no hurry to return home, plenty of buying and selling went on, and new sensations were ever happening. The Collie fancy was then in its hey-day. Now the conditions have altered, and I am not going to write that the fancy is the sufferer by the revolution; what a few have lost in pleasure and profit, the fancier world has gained enormously in purity of kennel matters. Though those in a position to judge know that the fancy is not absolutely pure to-day, we know that we have a powerful and very satisfactory kennel government that is to the dog fancy what the Jockey Club is to the turf—a protection to the honest, and a terror to the dishonest.

I will now switch my readers on to the Collie. It was the Birmingham National Dog Show Society that first provided a class for the breed. This was at their show in 1860, when one class only was scheduled for dogs and

bitches of all varieties of Sheepdogs. It attracted but an indifferent entry, but this is where the history of the show Collie begins—a beginning that now promises to know no finality. Some few years elapsed before any notable progress was made in breeding or exhibiting. Convincing evidence of this is that in 1863 only six entries were made in the Sheepdog class at the Birmingham Show. In 1871 a more healthy growth was apparent, and increased interest shown in the variety, as was proved by the larger entry at Birmingham Show of that year. There was only the one class for all varieties of Sheepdogs, and 17 dogs were entered. Two of the exhibits became celebrated Collies; and here we plunge into the historic blood that has hereditary responsibility for all our modern improvements. One was the winner, Old Mec, the property of Mr. John Henshell, of Salford. The other, Old Cockie, was very much the better dog of the two, though only placed second in the awards. He was owned by Mr. W. White, of Nottingham. It is impossible to over-estimate the beneficial influence Old Cockie had upon the progress and betterment of the breed. It may be said that he was the first great show Collie to distinguish himself greatly as a sire. He also deserves marked and well-merited distinction as the fountain head from which the popular and beautiful sable-and-white coloured Collies first sprung. Old Mec and Old Cockie were such important participators in the establishing of the Collie as a show dog that it will be necessary to deal further with them subsequently.

At the Birmingham Show, 1872, we find two classes introduced, one for each sex. A first and second prize were given of the value of £7 and £4 respectively. The entries in dogs numbered 24. In the class for the opposite sex we find the insignificant total of four competitors. Old Cockie was shown here in the name of Cockie Boy, and he

OLD COCKIE (10 YEARS OLD).

changed his luck with his name, for he won in his class. In bitches, the only one considered worthy of a prize was Wolf, a name that conveys to the enquiring man very little convincing information, for we find that at this period Wolf was a common name given to Collies; in fact, the word "Wolf" was so freely utilised by owner and critic that one is tempted to believe the likeness was more convincing than nowadays.

This bitch, Wolf, was owned by Mr. G. F. Shaw, of Cirencester. It may be mentioned here that, whilst the dogs afore-mentioned are very prominent in the foundation of the Collie as a show dog, the winning bitch, Wolf, is not traceable therein.

In 1873, Old Cockie again won the premier honours in his variety at Birmingham Show.

In 1874 Mr. W. W. Thomson first appeared as an exhibitor, and won first prize in Rough Dogs and first in Smooth Bitches, at Nottingham Dog Show.

Passing on to Birmingham Show in 1875, we have the first signs of a growing popularity that afterwards developed into a great boom in Collies, by a very notable increase in the number exhibited. The entries in dogs numbered 39; the bitches, 23. Mr. W. A. Walker, of Warwick, exhibited a dog named Scott, a dog that later appears in pedigrees as Walker's Scott (by Trefoil ex Waite). At this same show, Captain the Honourable E. Digby exhibited the two well-known bitches, Elsie and Kate, while Mr. Siviter, of Birmingham, won the first prize in bitches with Meggy (by Old Mec ex Scott). About this period Mr. S. E. Shirley, the founder and late president of the Kennel Club, was exhibiting very successfully with Trefoil (sire of Ch. Charlemagne), Tartan, and Tricolour, each bred on his estate in Ireland. They were by Twig ex Bess, Bess by Rattler ex Watt's Bess, and Twig

was by Old Twig ex Help, Help by Shamrock. This shows some successful inbreeding, as the latter was by McCall's Shep ex Bess (dam of Trefoil), she being by a dog owned by Mr. Shirley's shepherd from a bitch the property of Mr. Johnson. McCall's Shep was by a dog belonging to Sir G. Foster, Bart. Thus we learn the male line of Charlemagne's pedigree as far as it is possible to trace it. A study of old pedigrees reveals the fact that many of the parents recorded in such common nomenclature as by Shep ex Jess did probably begin and finish on the last sound of the word, as in those days no registration was compulsory or provided for, with the result that it was not unusual to see in one class several dogs of the same name, a condition of things that would be very confusing in the twentieth century.

In 1876 Messrs. J. and W. H. Charles appeared as exhibitors, winning second prize at Birmingham by the aid of Meg (by Trefoil ex Lassie).

The brothers, John and William Charles, were very successful as breeders and exhibitors. For many years they were prominent winners at our leading shows. One of the late Queen Victoria's favourite Collies was bred in the Wellesbourne Kennels, and graciously accepted as a present from the brothers Charles. After the death of John, William continued showing with conspicuous success, and though the well-known prefix latterly seldom appears in catalogues, it has a permanent and honourable position in the Kennel Club Stud Book, and more than one of the present-day champions, which have the blood of Ch. Wellesbourne Conqueror, will long preserve the fame of this influential strain.

In 1877 Mr. W. W. Thomson was represented at the Birmingham Show by Old Hero, Marcus, and Bess, the former winning the cup. Mr. Thomson has enjoyed a distinguished career in the Collie fancy, and is one of

CHAMPION CHARLEMAGNE.

the oldest fanciers and judges of the school taking active interest in the breed at the period of writing.

At the same show Mr. J. S. Skidmore showed Garry Owen, a dog that afterwards earned fame in the name of Carlyle, a typical headed Collie that often appears in old pedigrees. Carlyle was by Perthshire Bob ex Old Lassie, the former by Bob of Rug ex Cloudy, bred by Mr. E. Roberts, butcher, Denbigh.

Here Mr. J. Bissell, of Great Barr, Birmingham, whose name is immortalised as the breeder and owner of Ch. Charlemagne, and whose kennels became for a time irresistible, made his first appearance as an exhibitor. He was represented by a very fine team of Collies that did not win or get their deserts, consisting, as they did, of Clyde, afterwards known as Clydesdale (by Old Cockie ex Ashwin's Lassie), and Lorna (by Tartan ex Maude by Old Cockie ex Ashwin's Meg by Old Mec).

Mr. M. C. Ashwin, of Stratford-on-Avon, another very successful exhibitor of his day, appears at this same show as the exhibitor of Cocksie (litter brother to Clyde), on this occasion unsuccessfully, but Cocksie afterwards earned the prefix of Champion. Thus it will be seen that in those days as in these the best dog did not always win. In the bitch class Mr. Ashwin won with Watch (litter sister to Lorna).

In 1878 the Rev. Hans Hamilton, our honoured and worthy President of the Collie Club, and one of the brightest ornaments of the Collie world of all time, made his essay at the Birmingham Show, his exhibit being Tricolour II. (by Tricolour ex Lorna by Clunny ex the Hon. E. Digby's Elsie). At this show Messrs. Charles were second with the bitch Hasty, she being then nine months old, by Carlyle ex Glen by Trefoil ex Meg. Hasty's name appears so prominent in old pedigrees as to justify

the reader making special note of her here. Mr. Ashwin exhibited Comet (pedigree unknown).

In 1879, at Bristol Show, the Rev. Hans Hamilton brought out a remarkably strong team, consisting of Angus (by Walker's Scott ex Charles' Lassie), Jock, Tricolour II., Captain, Eva, and Ruby III; the latter trio being by Tricolour II., ex Nellie, by Bob, ex the Hon. E. Digby's Elsie. His exhibits also included a litter by Marcus, ex Ruby III., which contained Zulu Princess, Donald, and Madge, three famous prize winners, the last-mentioned bitch being Ch. Madge, the best of her day; she has also had great influence in the perfecting of the Collie, and is indeed one of the pillars of stud books. It is said that Ch. Madge was the first to start the fashion of the higher ear carriage now desired.

At the 1879 Birmingham Exhibition, Collies showed a remarakble all round improvement in point of quality, a wonderful collection being benched, some of which afterwards attained a high position in prize winning records.

Erstwhile, never was there a more interesting lot of Collies exhibited representative of one kennel than Mr. J. Bissell's team, which consisted of Charlemagne, the famous champion, then ten months old, and it is remarkable and worthy of note that his indisputable high qualities were only valued on this occasion to the extent of a highly commended card. Flirt, a litter sister to Charlemagne, was more fortunate and won in her class. Topper, another of the same litter, made up a remarkable trio from one litter; they were by Trefoil ex Maud. Wolf, by Old Cockie ex Lorna, was the hero of the team, winning first in his class, also the Mayor's Cup. He was claimed by the Rev. Hans Hamilton, at his catalogue price, £50, which was then considered a record price for a Collie. Clydesdale and Lorna com-

CHAMPION MADGE.

pleted this extraordinary combination from Mr. Bissell's kennels.

Mr. C. H. Wheeler, whose name is inseparable from any history of the Collie here, came into prominence with the famous bitch afterwards known as Ch. Lorna Doone, by Duncan ex Old Bess. This may be considered the earliest recorded classical success of one of our best living authorities.

Another well-known dog appeared in this prosperous year for the breed in General Trefoil, shown by Mr. J. Bagshaw. This dog was by Trefoil ex Lassie, by Old Mec ex Clara.

In 1880, the Collies of note that appeared were Mr. J. Dixon's Druce (by Duncan ex Old Bess), Mr. A. Easten's Chieftain (by Moss ex Meg), Dr. W. A. James' Trevor (litter brother to Ch. Charlemagne), Mr. J. Bissell's Bob Bruce (by Carlyle ex Midge by Old Cockie ex Jyp), and Mr. A. T. Emery's Cora (by Ashford's Jerry ex Wheeler's Nesta).

In 1881, a few new aspirants appeared at the leading shows. Mr. J. Bissell won in dogs at Birmingham show with a good Collie named Fox (by Old Cockie ex Lorna), whilst Mr. C. H. Wheeler was successful in bitches with Norna (by Sir Walter Scott, ex Old Bess). A good dog appeared in this show named Gairlock (by Carlyle ex Lady). This dog went to America shortly afterwards, where he had a very successful career.

At the Kennel Club Show, London, of the same year, a good lot of Collies were benched, great improvement in the quality of the dogs being very apparent. The most notable debutante at this important show was a youngster that caused no little sensation amongst the cognoscenti, a puppy known as Guy's Cliffe (by Trevor ex Lottie). This dog won in the Puppy class, and was claimed at his catalogue price, £50, by Mr. A. L. Chance, a gentleman well known

in the Midlands, who afterwards established a very prosperous little kennel which produced Ch. Lady of the Lake, Ch. Edgbaston Fox, and other well known winners.

In 1882, Mr. F. Hurst, of Knutsford, made a successful appearance as an exhibitor of the Rough-coated variety, winning third prize with Lady Fly at Burton-on-Trent. Mr. Hurst subsequently reached a high pinnacle of notoriety as one of the early pioneers in popularising the Smooth Collie. At this period, several notable enthusiasts joined in the great progress the Collie fancy was making. Names now appear that have since become so interwoven in the history of the Collie that it would be unjust to deny them the highest rank attainable in the Collie world. Some of them have established strains that have world-wide fame, attended by such success as only comes to experienced fanciers whose aim is the beautiful true Collie.

Mr. J. J. Stewart, of Rugby, a well-known judge of his day, began a successful kennel by the aid of Champagne (by Ch. Charlemagne ex Sinico, by Old Hero). As a breeder his most notable success was the breeding of Ch. Caractacus, which was shown at Liverpool, and won. Several claimed him at his catalogue price, £100. He was sold by auction, Mr. A. H. Megson securing him amidst considerable excitement for the sum of £350. Caractacus soon developed coarseness, and was eventually sold for a mere trifle. He also proved a failure as a sire.

Mr. Robert Chapman was about this time scoring well in Collie competition, his most notable winner being Tramp II. (by Tramp ex Moss, by Marcus). The year 1882 also saw the advent of Mr. A. H. Megson, of Manchester, who reigned supreme for a number of years at the head of the Collie fancy, and who earned world-wide fame as the owner of the greatest champions of the day, and by the record prices he paid to secure them. This caused him to become universally known by the appella-

CHAMPION METCHLEY WONDER.

tion of the "Uncrowned Collie King." This gentleman may be credited with initiating the great boom in Collies, and the record prices that prevailed for a number of years. His first noted dog was Ch. Chieftain, which he won with at Hertford in August, 1882. Afterwards Mr. Megson not only owned absolutely the best Collies of the day, but also some of the best that have ever lived. They included such noted giants of the past as Ch. Rutland, Ch. Metchley Wonder, Ch. Caractacus, Ch. Edgbaston Fox, Ch. Southport Perfection, Edgbaston Marvel, and in the writer's opinion and many other Collie judges' estimation the best Collie ever exhibited, Ch. Ormskirk Emerald. Though a great owner and exhibitor, Mr. Megson has been singularly unsuccessful as a breeder. His retirement from active participation in the fancy is to be regretted, for such gentlemen can be ill spared at any time, but particularly so at the time of writing.

Another enthusiastic fancier, Mr. W. R. Dockrell, commenced a successful show record by the aid of Flurry (by Trevor ex Hasty), one of the very best bitches of her time. This gentleman bred the well-known winner, The Squire, by Ch. Charlemagne ex Flurry.

At the Birmingham Show of this phenomenal prolific year for the fancy, Mr. G. Krehl became associated with Collies, and was heralded into the fancy by what was then a sensational purchase by the claiming of Eclipse (by Charlemagne ex Flirt), a Collie known later as Ch. Eclipse, at his catalogue price, £100, the purchase being the more notable as the dog had been ignominiously dismissed from the competitions without even a card of honour. It was not long before Mr. Krehl was exhibiting him successfully, for at the Kennel Club Show at the Crystal Palace, London, in January, 1883, Eclipse was awarded the highest prizes possible, and followed up this

success by a brilliant record both as a show dog and as a sire. Another important lesson in the value of judicious inbreeding is provided by the success of Ch. Eclipse, seeing that his sire and dam (Charlemagne and Flirt) were litter brother and sister.

Mr. Sam Boddington, of Birmingham, a very notable figure in the Collie world for some years, appeared for the first time as an exhibitor at the same show, and he won with a good bitch named Stripe (by Gairlock ex Quick Silver, by Wright's Scott ex Floss). Mr. Boddington about this time purchased the whole of Mr. C. H. Wheeler's kennel of dogs, the latter gentleman undertaking not to exhibit for three years. Mr. Boddington soon became one of the leaders in the fancy, the famous dogs, Ch. Rutland, Ch. Metchley Wonder, and Climax passing through his kennels. Rutland was given to the late Mr. Shirley by the Rev. Hans Hamilton, and entered by the late President of the Kennel Club in a £5 selling class at Gloucester Show. Mr. S. Boddington claimed him, and afterwards sold him to Mr. Megson for £250.

Mr. Harry Ralph, for many years secretary of the Collie Club, and one very conspicuous in the fancy, won with Sly Fox (later a champion), by Fox ex Zulu Princess.

At the Warwick Show, 1884, Mr. J. F. Godfree, of Birmingham, won several prizes with Lord Clyde, and Gipsey Clyde, both by Clydesdale ex Young Meg. Mr. Godfree was best known as the owner of Sefton, the sire of Ch. Metchley Wonder, and for many years he was a very enthusiastic and successful breeder and exhibitor.

At Liverpool Show in 1885, another important link was added to the now lengthy Collie chain. Mr. T. H. Stretch here exhibited and won third prize in the Puppy Class with Northampton (by Rutland ex Flirt II.), since which the Ormskirk prefix has become known in every

CH. CHRISTOPHER.

corner of the world. The number of champions owned by Mr. Stretch is legion, Ch. Christopher, Rufford Ormonde, and Ch. Ormskirk Emerald being the best.

During the same year Mr. W. Arkwright produced and exhibited successfully in open competition against all colours those famous and beautiful blue marles, Blue Ruin and Blue Sky. The former bitch went to America in 1870, and it may be written that she formed the nucleus of the blue marles that promise to become very popular in the United States.

Following close upon the advent of the owner of the famous Ormskirk kennel came such noted breeders as Mr. Panmure Gordon, Mr. Hugo Ainscough, Mr. J. Powers, Mr. R. Tait, Mr. Morton Campbell, Mr. Wake Walker, and Dr. MacGill, gentlemen who have occupied most exalted positions in the fancy, and, it may be written of some, that they still wear the triple crown of honour for threefold distinction as breeders, exhibitors, and judges. We now arrive at a period when the boom in Collies was at its height, and recruits to the increasing army of exhibitors and exhibits became ubiquitous, and too numerous to be dealt with individually here.

The analysis from the starting point of pedigrees of show Collies clearly demonstrates the fact that the following dogs formed the principle foundation:—Old Cockie, Old Mec, Old Hero, Carlyle, Trefoil, Tartan, Tricolour, Tramp, Marcus, Wright's Scott, Duncan (by a son of Old Cockie), Hunt's Lassie (by Bailey's Jock ex Lassie), Ashwin's Lassie, Hon. E. Digby's Elsie, Old Bess, Moss (dam of Sir Rob), and Mr. F. B. Brackenburg's Scott. The latter contributed the colour to Mr. Arkwright's famous strain of the blue marles. Next to nothing was known of the pedigrees of the afore-mentioned dogs, except that the majority of them come from a working strain of Sheepdogs, and many of these dogs also had the reputa-

tion of having followed the occupation of their calling in a creditable manner. Therefore the erroneous idea often heard voiced that show Collies are of a different family to the working Sheepdog is positively inconsistent with known facts. Having penetrated as far as possible to the roots of which our modern Collies are the scions, a problem especially important and interesting to the intelligent student who is anxious to fathom the bedrock of his study is the tracing from whence the most valuable properties of the modern Collie have been obtained, and the foregoing description of each of the early progenitors whose influence has been greatest will afford valuable information.

First comes Old Cockie, a most typical Collie, with a really good head, nice ear carriage, excellent coat, his body, shape, legs, and feet were as good as could be desired, and he was undoubtedly the best show Collie of his day. He had the greatest influence in producing the essential points. It is also a notable fact that this dog was the introducer of the sable colour. On the 18th of August, 1875, Old Cockie was sold at the Birmingham Horse Repository, the buyer being a well-known Kingsheath gentleman. He soon changed hands again, being sold to Mr. J. Bissell, hence the means of success of the last-named fancier. Beside winning in the name of Cockie Boy, Old Cockie won 1st and Cup at Birmingham in 1873, 1st and Cup Nottingham two years in succession, the Carlyle Borders Counties Champion Cup, and the Mayor of Maidstone's Cup at the Southern Counties Show. Another good all-round Collie, one of the best of his day, was the black and white dog Marcus, and it is a pity he did not leave more of his stock behind. However, Ch. Madge and Zulu Princess were his most creditable offspring.

As is evidenced by such long-coated dogs as Walker's Scott, General Trefoil, Trevor, Flirt, and the illustrious

EDGBASTON MARVEL.

Ch. Charlemagne, it seems that length of coat in the first instance came through the family of Trefoil, Tartan, and Tricolour, all black, tan, and white in colour, but their class of coat was not of the close wet-resisting quality as that of Old Cockie, and they lacked the characteristic Sheepdog head of the latter, and especially failed in Collie expression.

Mr. J. Bissell's successful brood bitch Maude, the dam of Ch. Charlemagne and other noted Collies, had the same class of coat as her sire, Old Cockie, and her head, though rather short, was of the desired type, but she was small in size, short in leg, out at elbows, and in colour sable and white, and it would seem that Maude was the strongest influence in the production of Ch. Charlemagne, for in addition to being the more typical, she came of the more typical blood of Old Cockie.

Old Mec, a black tan and white, was a racy built workmanlike Sheepdog. He had a fair amount of coat that was inclined to be wavy; head not a bad shape, but it was sulky in expression.

Carlyle, a dog with a black body and tan face, legs, and feet, was considered a long-headed dog in his day, but one did not see the abnormal length seen nowadays, which recent exaggeration makes old breeders wonder from whence it has come. Carlyle possessed character, and was a fairly well-balanced Collie, but his upper jaw overhung his lower, or he was what is termed pig-jawed, which shows the pig-jawed Collie is not a modern creation. He had an excellent coat and frill, and it is of interest to know that he was bred from a well-known strain of working Sheepdogs. The best of Carlyle's offspring were Gairlock, Tyne, Hasty, and Bob Bruce.

The Tricolour Old Hero was the winner of numerous prizes, and here I make boldly to state he was an overrated dog, his only redeeming feature being a big coat.

No doubt an abundance of coat even in more modern times hides many faults and deceives the novice judge now as well as of old. Old Hero was not correct in head, being too flat sided in face and square in muzzle, and quite lacking that trace of foxey outlook characteristic of the breed. Fortunately, Hero's progeny, many of which possessed to a worse degree their sire's defects, figure but little in up-to-date pedigrees.

Mention should be made of Tramp, a red dog, which won 1st prize at the Alexandra Palace Show in 1879, and 2nd at Dublin. Next to nothing was known of his antecedents, except that he was bred in Ireland, and that he was bred by Mr. Mercier, his sire Old Sweep, his dam Lassie. A good stamp of Collie, with a decent head not exactly pleasing in expression, a good coat, but bad forelegs. He, however, falls into the line of pedigrees through being the sire of Tramp II., and consequently the grandsire of the wonderfully coated dog Smuggler.

Wright's Scott, the sire of Quick Silver, was well-known in the district of Birmingham for his wonderful cleverness as a working Sheepdog. His merit as a show specimen was never put to the test, although he was quite up to first-class qualification. He was in colour a showily marked black tan and white, very handsome in appearance, good in head and expression, and carried a splendid coat and frill.

Having dealt with the strain that apparently contributed primarily in the matter of coat, the all-important study to absorb attention is head points. There is no characteristic that so strongly denotes the breed to which a dog belongs as does the typical head. The best and truest type of head came principally through the strains introduced by Captain the Hon. E. Digby, the Rev. Hans Hamilton, and Mr. C. H. Wheeler, namely, through Elsie, Madge I., Duncan, and Old Bess. In this category, again,

CH. PORTINGTON BAR NONE.

the influence of the immortalised Old Cockie rendered invaluable aid, his son Scott being the sire of Duncan. Scott spent a rural life on a farm at Kingsheath, and was never exhibited at a show, yet no Collie in those days had greater claims to superiority as a show specimen. In colour a sable and white, he was not a big dog but elegantly formed, and as active as a cat. He could jump a five-barred gate like a Greyhound, kill a rat, catch a rabbit, or do anything almost but talk. A magnificent coated dog with a mane, cape, and frill so phenomenal that they formed a background which showed off his exquisite head to perfection, and only just the tips of his perfectly carried ears could be seen.

Lufra, another tricolour, was bred in Scotland from a celebrated strain of working Sheepdogs, just a moderate-sized bitch, with the correct type of head, the proper carriage of ears, and a capital coat. Duncan, a son of the latter bitch, resembled her in type, but carried more coat, and in colour was a dapple sable. A peculiar feature was that the remainder of the litter were all blue marled in colour.

Old Bess was a prettily marked black tan and white of unknown pedigree, a good worker as a Sheepdog. In size she would now be considered small. She, however, possessed a good coat; her head was the quintessence of quality and Collie Charater; and she had small rather high-carried ears.

When Madge I. and Malcolm I. (the latter by Duncan ex Old Bess) were shown as puppies at the Kennel Club Show at the Crystal Palace in June, 1880, the former exhibited by the Rev. Hans Hamilton, each won in their respective classes. The cognoscenti proclaimed them the best headed brace ever seen on the show bench, and Malcolm was claimed at his catalogue price by the Rev. Hans Hamilton.

Madge I. was in colour similar to her dam, Ruby II., black in body, with tan of a nice shade on face and legs, and with slight white markings. She was only medium in size, nicely coated, and owned a beautiful type of head, with true Collie expression, set off with orthodox carriage of ears.

It is a logical assumption that the Hon. Captain E. Digby's Elsie, which formed the nucleus of the Rev. Hans Hamilton's strain, was born of parents which were of the true type, as at this point the prevailing great feature about the Collies belonging to the latter breeder was the typical head. This valuable property was extended to both Sooty and Peggie II., and still further to that exquisite quality dog Ch. Christopher.

The intelligent breeder will find interest in a study of the lineages of some of our more recent distinguished sires from the starting point of their composition, commencing with Hunt's Lassie (by Bailey's Jack ex Lassie) blue marle. She was mated with Druce, sable and white, and produced Bonnie Greta, sable and white, which was mated with Bonnie Laddie, same colour, and produced Catrine, sable and white. A remarkable feature in connection with the latter being that she was the only one of the litter allowed existence, the remainder being destroyed in consequence of being blue marle in colour. Catrine was mated with Loafer, and produced Minnie, sable and white, which was mated with Sefton, black tan and white; thus we arrive at the wonder of his age, Ch. Metchley Wonder, a dog bred in Birmingham, bought by Mr. Boddington for under £10, sold to Mr. Megson for £500. M. Wonder was a typical Collie, a great winner, and a great sire. A most handsome sable and white dog, it was common talk in his day that Mr. Megson more than once refused £1,000 for him, and probably no Collie earned the amount of money as did Metchley Wonder. Loafer was by Chang,

EDGBASTON PLASMON.

ex the Lily, the latter a sister to Flurry. Druce and Bonnie Laddie were both by Duncan, ex Old Bess. Sefton was by Charlemagne, ex Madge, so it will be seen that in the combination that apparently had the greatest influence in producing the perfected desirable type of Collie, the best headed stock predominated.

Following the line, the quality headed Peggie II. was mated to Metchley Wonder, and the result was the breeding of the famous Ch. Christopher, which was quite the best headed Collie exhibited up to this point. Christopher was a sweet headed dog, thoroughly characteristic, but it may be written that he was anything but perfect behind his head. He was bred by the Rev. Hans Hamilton, and sold to Mr. T. H. Stretch for about £60. He soon earned the title champion, and after a very successful career in the Ormskirk kennels was sold to Mr. Mitchell Harrison, of Philadelphia, America, at the hitherto unheard of price, £1,000. Christopher remained in England for some time, but finally went to America. As a sire this dog proved of inestimable value to breeders, as his appearance was most opportune. His pedigree contains a wealth of progenitors that excelled in head qualities, the value of which, together with his beautiful typical head, made him an ideal sire, and the influence of his blood had the salutary effect of preserving and improving that most beautiful possession peculiar to the genuine Collie—the head that is not valued by its inches.

Christopher sired many prize winners, one of the earliest being Champion Stracathro Ralph. He was bred and owned by Mr. Morton Campbell. This dog was, like his sire, a handsomely marked sable and white. He won all through his classes, taking the Mayor's Cup at Birmingham Show in 1891. Mated to Harmony (by Metchley Wonder), he produced Mother Shipton, a bitch purchased by Mr. Megson for £100. The next best great sire after

Ch. Christopher was undoubtedly his famous son, Edgbaston Marvel (by Christopher ex Sweet Marie). Edgbaston Marvel was not a show specimen; his ears were not carried in the orthodox fashion, being too low, but he was a marvellous headed dog, with few faults anywhere. He was exhibited when a youngster with indifferent success, but it was Mr. Wheeler who recognised his possibilities as a sire. At this time Mr. Weager (now of Bobtail fame) owned Marvel. Mr. Wheeler secured him for £30, and Marvel was never exhibited again. So it was solely by merit of his offspring that this wonderful Collie earned such repute that Mr. A. H. Megson paid £500 to secure him when he had turned four years old. In Edgbaston Marvel the good head properties were retained, though his blood was interfused by an outcross through his dam, Sweet Marie, she being by the phenomenally coated Smuggler, ex Sweet Fairy, the last named by Ch. Rutland ex Strawberry Girl, a sister to Champagne, but even in this outcross a dash of good headed blood comes through Rutland (by Wolf ex Madge). Edgbaston Marvel sired such great dogs as Ch. Portington Bar None, Ch. Southport Perfection, Ch. Southport Pilot.

Of the large number of notable winners that Marvel sired, Southport Perfection was one of the earliest champions. He was bred by Mr. Ainscough, and when first exhibited was short of coat, but with age he grew an abundance, and had a very successful career.

Ch. Portington Bar None was undoubtedly Edgbaston Marvel's best headed son; in fact, this dog's head was universally accepted as the nearest approach that had been seen to the ideal Collie head. Nowadays his head often adorns specialist works as an example of the ideal type. A shortness of coat may be said to have been Portington

CH. WELLESBOURNE CONQUEROR.

Bar None's fault, although in his old age he excelled in quantity and quality of coat. This good Collie had quite an interesting history of his own. Bred by Mr. Wheeler, he was purchased out of the nest by the old breeder, Mr. John Best, who sold him when still young to Mr. W. H. Charles, of Wellesbourne. It was not long before he was again sold, this time to Mr. John Powers, who again helped the wandering youngster on by selling him to Mr. T. P. Brearley, of Portington Grange, where he picked up his prefix. The latter gentleman exhibited him with moderate success, but it was at Birmingham Show, 1892, that his breeder recognised the true merit of the dog, although reserve and v.h.c. were his honours.

Shortly afterwards Mr. Wheeler purchased him, and owned him until his death. When Portington Bar None was in the zenith of a successful career, and as a sire was represented by the best dog and bitch of the day, he met with an unfortunate accident, that checked if not wrecked a brilliant life at stud.

We now arrive at an historic epoch in Collie culture. The result of many thousands of breeders' ardent endeavours to produce a more perfect specimen now began to show itself. At this point the champion of all champions, Ormskirk Emerald, appears, the invariably expressed opinion of the oldest and most reliable judges being that this was the most perfect all-round Collie ever exhibited; nor has his equal been reproduced in more modern times. Some have a head that makes their name, others excel otherwise, but Emerald was, when at his best, a magnificent, almost perfect, all-round specimen of the breed. The critic that found fault with him was indeed hypercritical. He was bred by Mr. W. P. Barnes, and was by Heather Ralph ex Aughton Bessie. Mr. T. H. Stretch purchased the whole litter that contained the gem Emerald when they were quite

young. They were born in September, 1894. Emerald started his winning record when thirteen months old at Edinburgh, the judge being Mr. J. Powers. He won first prize in the Limit class, and although he then shone in the most essential points, it was not until he was two years old that he was sufficiently furnished with a coat to completely do justice to himself, and to present to advantage his recognised excellent qualities. However, as is often the experience with otherwise good dogs, time provided the required growth of coat in Emerald, and when he entered the arena at Birmingham Show in 1896 he was in perfect bloom, and with ease vanquished his nearest opponents, Portington Bar None, Wellesbourne Conqueror, and Southport Perfection, no mean specimens. The connoisseurs at this show proclaimed him the best Collie ever seen on the show bench. The highest point in big prices was reached when Mr. Megson determined that the best Collie of the times should serve to glorify his kennels, and at the price of £1,300 became the owner of Emerald. Grand Collie as Emerald undoubtedly was, his stock was conspicuously disappointing, for, though afforded exceptional opportunities as a stud dog, he failed as a sire. The writer mated Billesley Beau Ideal with him, and produced Billesley Brilliant, which at seven months old unshown, was sold to Mr. J. Powers for £200; but the best Collie sired by Emerald was Ch. Emerald Gem, a really beautiful specimen, a genuine flyer. But considering the great number of puppies Emerald was responsible for, the proportion of meritorious specimens was indeed disappointing. He not only failed to reproduce his own equal, but was poorly represented by winners at the shows of his day. The most logical explanation for such a brilliant star of the show ring failing as a sire and defeating the sanguine expectations of experienced breeders, is obviously to be found in

CH. PARBOLD PICCOLO.

the fact that Emerald to a great extent was what is known among breeders as a chance bred one. This may be readily understood by a glance at his pedigree, which, though not introducing any change of blood, with the exception of Scottish Hero, it may be seen that coarseness predominates over quality in most lines of the starting point on both sides of his lineage. The coarse-headed Champagne, whose dam Sinico was by Old Hero, entered the admixture at least four times, and it is recognised that all breeds of live stock are prone to throw back to early progenitors. Emerald's sire, Heather Ralph, was deficient in head properties, and though his sire, Stracathro Ralph, was by the high quality Christopher, he had for his dam Stracathro Fancy, on whose side coarseness prevailed. The dam of Emerald was Aughton Bessie, who possessed a beautiful quality head inherited through her sire, Edgbaston Marvel, and in the breeding of Emerald it would seem that he inherited his good qualities from his dam, as in this respect he was an exemplification of her. Therefore the successful breeders' adage of paying great regard to essential qualities traceable as far back as possible in their breeding stock is proved worthy of close attention.

Ch. Rightaway was the next Collie of note. Bred by Mr. R. Tait, he was by Finsbury Pilot ex Miss Purden. Born on November 27th, 1895, he met with his greatest success in 1897, winning in the Open at Edinburgh, Liverpool, Birmingham, and Earl's Court, London. Though Rightaway was a correct nice type of Collie, it is singular that his best sons, two champions, were conspicuously lacking in Collie character, and both have been comparative failures as sires. They were Ch. Barwell Masterpiece and Ch. Woodmansterne Tartan.

Ch. Balgreggie Hope, bred by Mr. J. Wilkie, by Old Hall Blucher ex Nell, was born in 1896. This dog was an enormous coated Collie. He only met with moderate

success until Mr. Hugo Ainscough secured him, and when this gentleman brought him out in full coat and bloom, the dog caused no little sensation. He certainly had a magnificent appearance. His head and characteristic ears were, as it appeared, set deep in an abundantly coated background of frill, cape, and coat that set them off to great advantage. Albeit, I always considered him an over-rated Collie, and though given great opportunities at stud, and he got many winners, it cannot be said that he was a conspicuous success as a sire. He gave us a useful outcross, that's all.

In 1897 Mr. Stretch exhibited Ormskirk Galopin, which was a beautifully bred dog, for he claimed Emerald as his sire, and Ormskirk Memoir for his dam. The latter was one of the best bitches of all time, though their son, Ormskirk Galopin, was no wonder in himself; a very big dog, too big, he had a long head the right type, a trifle on coarse side, and he was wavy in coat. However, it is important to note the influence of this dog, and the inference to be drawn is that heredity is responsible for the good that has been transmitted through him to later generations, as we find him sire of a far better dog than himself in Ch. Heacham Galopin, a very beautiful quality dog, with the right type of head and nice expression, his failings being a scarcity of coat and a little lightness of eye, but he was a very good all-round Collie. Heacham Galopin was bred by J. W. Crabtree, born July, 1897, was by Ormskirk Galopin ex Wisbech Dolly. He went to the United States.

Without leaving this line of pedigree we arrive at the beautiful Collie, Ch. Wishaw Clinker, which was by Heacham Galopin, ex Last Rose, bred by Mr. R. Tait, and born December, 1898. He was exceedingly handsome and attractive in colour, a rich sable and white, with an enormous coat; he had a nice type of head, with quite

ORMSKIRK OLYMPIAN.

the Collie expression and orthodox carriage of ears. This dog had but few faults. Equally successful as a show dog and as a sire, his influence was for good, and like so many of our best dogs, he was secured by the Americans.

Ch. Balgreggie Baronet now falls into line by Ch. Wishaw Clinker, ex Old Hall Duchess. This dog was bred by Mr. T. Lockhart, and was born March, 1901. Like his sire, a nice sized handsome sable and white, he will be remembered by present-day breeders, as he was exhibited at the Agricultural Hall, London, as late as 1904. This was about his final triumph in the ring, for he shortly afterwards died, but not before he had laid the foundation of a son, whose superior merit as a typical quality Collie must perpetuate the memory of his sire and ancestry. This brings us up to Ch. Squire of Tytton, by Ch. Balgreggie Baronet, ex Belle of Boston, bred by Mr. Horry, and born April, 1904. He is undoubtedly a beautiful and good all-round Collie of the true type, and a very fine example of the improvement made in Collies since the earliest date that this history deals with. Ch. Squire of Tytton brings us to date, and to the present terminus of the male line of one of the most influential, valuable, and flourishing branches that now exists in the genealogical tree of the Collie. Beauty of Tytton, by Ch. Squire of Tytton ex Dolly of Tytton, made a successful *debut* in the same hall as her sire just twelve months later. Born May 27th, 1905, she won championship at the Collie Club Show, and at Manchester, 1906. She excels in type and quality, her worst fault being her bad tail.

It is now necessary for me to retrace my steps to enable me to deal with another important branch—a useful outcross, though containing much of the blood kindred to the line dealt with.

Ch. Wellesbourne Conqueror was born April, 1895. Bred by Mr. W. H. Charles, he was by Wellesbourne Councillor, which was by Ch. Southport Perfection, by Edgbaston Marvel, and the dam of Conqueror was Wellesbourne Beauty, the latter being by Edgbaston Marvel. Conqueror was a sable, handsomely marked with white; he possessed a very long head that was generally considered on the wrong side, and though not a wrong type, it somewhat lacked the true refined sweet Collie expression. It was late in life when he began to make his lasting reputation, and this was done principally by the fame of his son, Ch. Parbold Piccolo, which was born April, 1899. He was by Wellesbourne Conqueror, ex Parbold Pinafore, the latter by Balgreggie Hope.

Ch. Parbold Piccolo earned world-wide fame as a show dog, for he was supreme for some time in English competition, but a dog's most lasting reputation is usually decided by his success as a sire, and we know that Parbold Piccolo's name is perpetuated by the merit and influence of his offspring, and while a record of pedigrees is preserved it will be impossible to obliterate Parbold Piccolo's name as a great sire. He begat Ch. Anfield Model, Ch. Lancaster Rex, Ch. Parbold Pagoda, and many others. He is also grandsire to Ch. Wishaw Leader and Ch. Parbold Peacock. He finally went to America, but never reached his destination, being lost en route.

Ch. Lancaster Rex comes next, by Ch. Parbold Piccolo ex Lady Galopin. This big, sound, robust dog was possessed of unusual quality for a Collie of his size. He won his championships at Birkenhead, the Collie Club Show, and Belfast, and was finally purchased by Mr. R. G. Gibson, of Johannesburg, South Africa.

Ormskirk Olympian, by Parbold Piccolo ex Ormskirk Ideal, was born July, 1901. This good dog had but a

CH. WISHAW LEADER.

short public life in England. He was exhibited with success at Cruft's, Dublin, Ayr, and Birmingham, and then sold to America. Shortly after his disposal his son, Ch. Wishaw Leader appeared, and won up and down the country. He is by Ormskirk Olympian, ex Hartwood Lady; he was whelped April, 1903, and is still one of our great Collies at the time of writing—a big handsome tricolour, with the right type of quality head, a dog with coat and substance.

Ch. Anfield Model by Parbold Piccolo ex Bellfield Beauty, the latter by Wishaw Clinker, was whelped June, 1902, and bred by Mr. H. Galt; a dog of many masters; his greatest failing is his extreme shyness as a show dog. A lovely headed Collie of the ideal type, he must have great influence in the betterment of the true Collie. To the writer's mind the hereditary influence of this dog will be great indeed. He may, or may not, reproduce himself, but his blood must tell for good some day.

Ch. Parbold Peacock, by Anfield Model ex Parbold Pepperette, the latter by Ch. Balgreggie Baronet ex Ch. Parbold Pagoda by Parbold Piccolo. Parbold Peacock combines the good qualities of his sire. In every way a typical specimen, he possesses inherent desirable qualities that must contribute largely to the perfecting of the Collie. Since the above was written quite a number of Peacock's progeny have distinguished themselves in competition. Billesley Bountiful by Ch. Parbold Peacock ex Lancaster Ada is the latest of this line to be exhibited, a sable and white, bred by the author. She was born August 12th, 1905. She made a successful *debut* in competition at Blackpool Show, and won all through the Bitch classes. Her photo. must be her character here. Billesley Briton is a litter brother to Billesley Bountiful. This is written on the eve of his *debut* to show life, and though his fame does not entitle him to inclusion among

celebrities, in the opinion of the author, and also a few reliable old judges who have seen him, he promises to become famous, and a champion in the near future. Whether this proves correct or not, the lesson of his illustration here is to show the importance of heredity, and an instance of like begetting like. Billesley Bountiful takes somewhat after her grandsire, Ch. Anfield Model, and Billesley Briton is the image of his sire, Parbold Peacock, in type, colour, and habit; but, on the other hand, though his sire is a dog on the small side, Billesley Briton is a big dog. This brings us to the end of the Wellesbourne Conqueror, Parbold Piccolo, Anfield Model, and Parbold Peacock line.

At this point I would remind my readers that I have purposely put aside a few noted Collies, to enable me to show as near as possible an unbroken lineage down to our present champions, thereby providing a simple study and reference for the thoughtful breeder.

Before closing this chapter I purpose picking up these connecting links. To do this it is necessary to go back to Ch. Barwell Masterpiece, by Ch. Rightaway ex Carmarthen Lass, which was born February, 1897. This dog, a big showy black tan and white, was bred by Mr. Tait, who sold him for something like £300 when quite a youngster to Mr. John Powers. The dog was a very noted winner, and became the property of Princess Montglyon. Of him I do not hesitate to write that he was an unpopular champion; his best friends could hardly praise his type, and it is worthy of note that little trace of his blood can be found in the present-day typical specimens.

Ch. Woodmansterne Tartan, born February, 1898, was by Ch. Rightaway ex Woodmansterne Lassie, a big long headed dog that was not the quality or type that has from the early history of the Collie been the dominant

CH. ORMSKIRK EMERALD

attribute of the Collies of the Rev. Hans Hamilton, his breeder. Of Tartan it may be also truthfully written he has not shone as a sire.

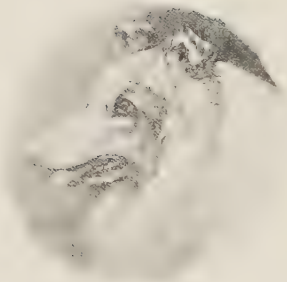
Though of necessity concise, this chapter covers the history of the Collie as a show dog, and a perusal will show the reader that the most successful strains have been established by method, the first principal of which has been a most studious adherence to typical breeding stock which inherited characteristic attributes from a well defined line of ancestors of the true Collie type. The novice should notice that methodical, judicious inbreeding to quality blood has brought success to the breeder, and has also been beneficial to the Collie. If this argument is substantiated, and the author is of the opinion that there is ample evidence in this chapter to prove its truth, why, there is a right way, that is easily traceable, that should invariably lead to successful breeding. I do not write that there is a royal road that knows no failure, but there is a well trodden highway that any beginner who will take the trouble may locate and traverse that has brought fame and fortune to not a few of our successful breeders who have established well known strains and prosperous kennels. A study of the pedigrees of the present day champions will show that they have a long line of typical ancestors. To trace their lineage is to find the names of the best Collies of the past, and, perhaps what is more significant, it proves there is a wrong way that has been championed and advertised by the names of glittering champions bred lucky, Collies with greatness that ceased with retirement from the show ring. Their names denote the line of pedigree to be avoided. The mention of the dogs will be found in this chapter, but not in the most successful strains of the present period.

The beautiful Collies which bring this chapter to a close, it is pleasing to write, are not chance bred ones,

but they are the natural decendants of a most successful, desirable family, with a pure inheritance. An analysis of pedigrees should convince the reader that the strains which have had the greatest influence in the making of the Collie from the earliest show period are the Rev. Hans Hamilton's and the Birmingham strain, and, later, such noted breeders as Mr. Hugo Ainscough, Mr. R. Tait and Mr. T. H. Stretch have cultivated and developed strains drawn from the above combination that have, by judicious inbreeding and wise outcrossing, produced splendid results.

The more Midland breeders whose dogs are recognisable by the prefixes—Edgbaston, Barwell, Billesley, and Wellesbourne—are responsible for the Birmingham strain, and they naturally still keep more closely to the Metchley Wonder, Christopher, Edgbaston Marvel, and Portington Bar None line. However, it is easily discernible that all the successful strains are closely allied by kindred blood relationship. Take Ch. Squire of Tytton. He comes of the esteemed Emerald line, and, although there is a choice admixture by an infusion of fresh blood, you find Edgbaston Marvel a few generations back. Ch. Wishaw Leader has the blood of Marvel in his veins, although it has been strongly added to by the blood of many notable typical champions. Ch. Parbold Peacock and Ch. Anfield Model have choice pedigrees that, on extending, soon pick up Edgbaston Marvel, Christopher, and Metchley Wonder on both sides of their parentage. This embraces the present champions, and it applies to other notable winners not mentioned here. Therefore, it seems patent that the Birmingham strain has had great influence in the perfecting of the typical Collie as represented by the present day champions.

And so we arrive at the end of our long journey, as this history must stop at the latest scion of the noble lineage of the Collie, whose off-



CH. BLUE RUIN.

From a Painting

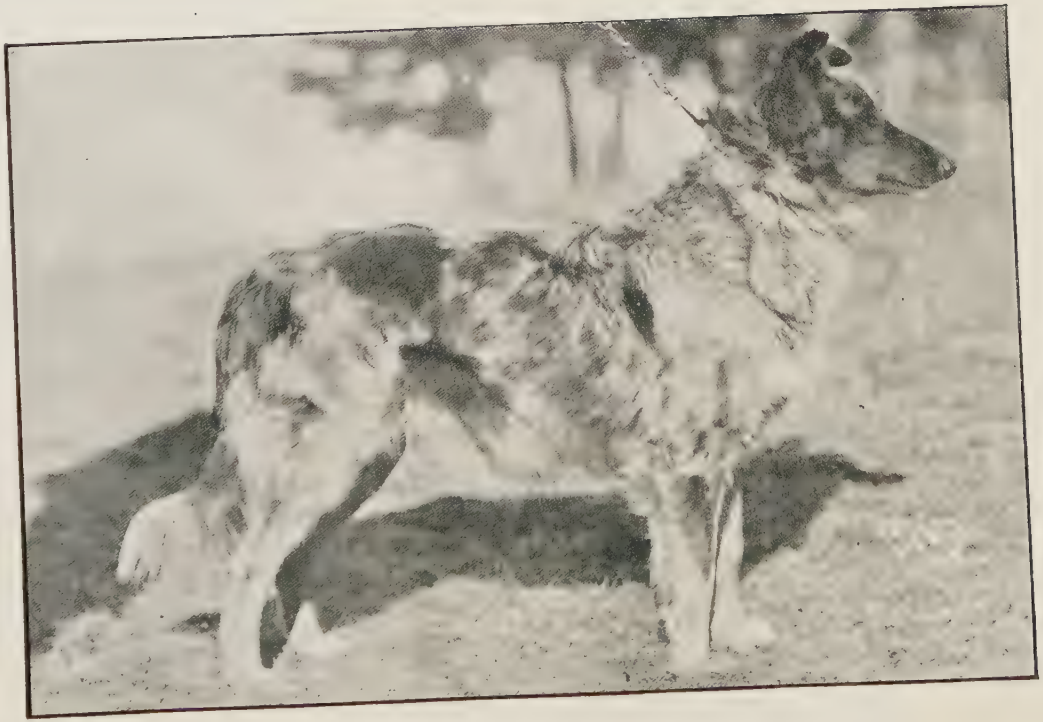
spring will continue the descent until the end of all time, when the Utopian Collie would probably seem as distant as ever, but it is the fervent hope of the writer that the Collies that will provide material for a future narrative will still be emblematic of the ancient and the twentieth century Collie.

Chapter IV.—The Blue Marled.

This monograph would not be complete without some special reference to this rare but comely colour, which is in reality one of the commonest original colours of the Sheepdog. It is a relic of old-time Collies. They were plentiful 40 years ago, almost in every county in England.

To describe them, the choicest coloured specimens have a coat as blue as a South African sky, dappled with black spots, often abundantly, and correctly marked with white. Red tan shading on face and about legs is a great acquisition, and the wall, or China eyes, make up a delightful Sheepdog, with a quaint picturesqueness that is quite unique. The description given of Mr. Brackenberg's Scott approaches the ideal Marle. They vary somewhat in shade of colour and markings, and from its variety might appropriately be termed Variegated Blue Collies.

Our subject is, unfortunately, ill-named; it bears a most inappropriate title. A Merle is a blackbird. Therefore the designation Blue Merle as applied to a Collie dog is obviously senselessly unsuitable. It is out of agreement, as it gives no likeness whatever of the animal that bears the name. Fanciers often enquire why and when it was named the Blue Merle. The christening would seem to have been the result of a mere fad. In the early days before breeding for exhibition, specimens received much attention, they were known and spoken of as Tortoise-shell Collies. Though this is somewhat a misnomer, it conveys to one's mind some idea of the actual. There can be little doubt that the colour became unpopular with the early breeders, and later almost extinct, as did the name. The earliest show specimens were called Blue Marled—a contraction of the word marbled—a name that



AMERICAN BLUE MARLED COLLIE, GREYSTONE BLUE BIRD.

exactly expresses the real effect of the colour, sky blue, clouded over with black, with splashes of tan and white. This was the title when Mr. W. P. Arkwright established his famous strain of the variety.

Mr. Krehl was responsible for the term Merle, and though remonstrated with and reminded that the word represented a blackbird, and silly when applied to the Collie, he acknowledged the logic of the argument, but declined to alter his Merle because he liked the word, and the name has stuck to the variety ever since. But there is no reason why it should continue to do so; in fact, I am of the opinion that every admirer of the colour should assist in a universal adoption of the the more pleasing title Blue Marled. The word is more suitable, more truthful in its meaning, as it reveals to the mind a picture of the animal it represents. I sincerely hope an effort will be made to revive the good old English word Marled for this good old English colour, and future philologists will have cause to bless us.

It is claimed that the Blue Marled colour is exclusively that of the Collie, and that it is not associated with any other breed of dog. There are varieties of the canine that may be described as harlequin, or even dappled, but the characteristic Blue Marled colour is only known to the Collie. It seems inexplicable that such a fascinating colour should have been allowed to decline, and become neglected almost to extinction; but there is perhaps a reason. In the earliest days of breeding for show Collies, the colour would probably be looked upon as indicative of common stock, as farmers, drovers, and dealers were accustomed to have this Marled Sheepdog as their working companion. This is somewhat borne out by the action of later breeders habitually destroying the Blue Marled puppies that appeared in their litters.

We have evidence of this, as given in "The History of the Collie."

With all the systematic methods of getting rid of the colour, though neglected for years through a decline of interest, a few of the faithful have ever been active in its preservation with success. Though taken in a general way, the present-day specimens may only seem a vestige of former greatness. The vitality of its interest is more forceful, more active, at the period of writing than at any time since the dispersal of the famous stud of the colour owned by Mr. W. P. Arkwright. In an article entitled "Pillars of the Stud Book," contributed to the *Kennel Gazette* in 1896, Mr. W. W. Thomson wrote, "I cannot close without referring to the Blue Marles, which will become again more popular." Though that was written ten years ago, the prophecy has proved true, for, though steadily, its popularity has grown year by year since, and it is safe to prophesy a more progressive future for them; the signs of the times forecast a fashionable booming time to come in due season. The natural attractiveness of the colour must by its own influence captivate. All that is wanting is an all-round improvement in quality of the head of the generality of show specimens, and a greater production of the colour. The good times are patiently waiting—the wait will not be in vain. The Blue Marle is coming, perhaps slowly, but, mark you, it is sure to arrive sooner or later.

Americans are seeking for them. They have recognised their beauty. Their breeders are paying attention to them; inquiries are made in England for them. Awake to the position, my English readers, and no longer let them ask in vain. The longer you delay, the more ground there will be to make up. The author is confident that the day will come when the record performance of the famous Blue Ruin, when she beat all comers, all

BARWELL LASS.

colours, at the Kennel Club Show, in 1888, in winning the Collie Club Trophy, will be repeated.

Undoubtedly the greatest benefactor ever associated with the Blue Marled, as a show specimen, is Mr. W. Arkwright, who specialised them, and systematically established the strongest kennel of this particular colour that has ever existed. He got together a remarkable collection. The author would travel far to see the following grouped in competition, if only for the beautiful colour spectacle. Mr. Arkwright bred about thirty good specimens, but the following were his best known dogs, which took years of study and careful breeding to produce: —

Blue Bottle,
Blue Stocking,
Blue Rose,
Blue Eyes,
Blue Blazes,
Blue Bird,
Blue Devils,
Blue Sky, and
Blue Ruin.

The last two, Blue Sky (a dog), and the famous bitch Blue Ruin, were infinitely the best of their variety ever seen in those days.

The earliest sire of any note was owned by Mr. F. B. Brackenberg, Downham, Norfolk. The dog was known by the name of Scott, bred in 1873. The pedigree was unknown. He was a typical dog throughout; a winner of several prizes, including a win at Chesterfield Show in 1876. This is the dog that assisted in the establishment of Mr. Arkwright's strain.

I do not remember seeing Mr. Brackenberg's Scott, but Mr. W. Arkwright described him to me as a large dog with a splendid thick coat, and the best coloured Blue Marled Collie ever seen. A light silvery blue, beautifully clouded with black, and with a white collar, frill, blaze, paws, and tag, while his face and forelegs were bordered by bright red. One of his eyes was china coloured, and

he had a long sweeping brush, perfectly carried ears, his only fault being a little coarseness in head. Can any lover of the Sheepdog imagine a more delightful-looking animal? Just think of the effect of the colours—silvery blue, black, white, and red. The colours combined in a beautiful coated good Collie seems to the writer a dream but imperfectly realised in the modern Blue Marled Collie. We have lost some portion of the red markings, and also the silvery blue, but it may and will be reproduced. Mr. Arkwright, who is as enthusiastic in his admiration of the variety now as when he so successfully cultivated them, tells me that his experience proved to his mind that the colour was quite easily preserved; in fact, he found that if blues were mated with blues the tendency was to breed puppies with too much white on them. One litter he bred contained two pure white puppies, with eyes of the most vivid turquoise blue, but they were unfortunately stone deaf, and consequently were destroyed. It should be instructive to the modern breeder of the variety to know this old breeder's views on the scientific cultivation of the Blue Marled colour. Mr. Arkwright considers a black tan and white Collie the most suitable cross for the Blue Marle in order to obtain the silvery blue without the admixture of rust, and to obtain the attractive bright red face markings. Mr. Arkwright has recently expressed himself to the author in words that are most encouraging to those breeders who keep striving on trying to bring the colour up from the rear to the van. His words were: "If I now had space to breed them, as well as my sporting dogs, I would gladly do so, as no animal can be more beautiful and none would more amply repay scientific cultivation." It may be that Mr. Arkwright will succumb to persuasion, and once more pilot them to the front. I am sure we who have the best interests of the variety at heart would heartily welcome his assistance.

BLUE PRINCESS ALICE.

To return to the dog, Brackenberg's Scott, Mr. Arkwright being unsuccessful in his efforts to purchase him, mated a red sable bitch named Russett to him, and from this union it may be said nearly all the Blue Marled Collies which have been exhibited since that period have descended. Blue Stocking, by Scott ex Russett was mated to Redbreast by Mr. W. W. Thomson's Lynn, a black and tan dog by Watch ex Trip, said to have been the descendants of a strain of Collies introduced into Devonshire by Farmer John, Duke of Bedford, more than a century ago, and produced Blue Rose. The latter was mated with her grandsire Scott, and a very notable winner came of the alliance in Blue Sky, by Scott ex Blue Rose, born April 2, 1882. Blue Sky was the best dog Mr. Arkwright exhibited, and the best of his sex and colour of the day. Blue Thistle, an invaluable brood bitch, was a litter sister to Blue Sky, so the union of granddaughter and grandsire was a notable success, as will be further proved as we proceed. Blue Thistle was mated to Donald, which was by Carlyle ex Flirt, by Old Cockie, and in her first litter Blue Thistle produced the famous bitch, Blue Ruin. Unfortunately Blue Thistle died after whelping her second litter.

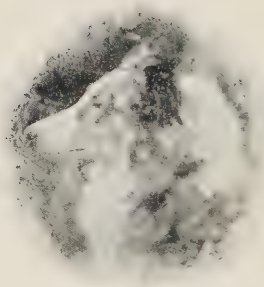
Blue Ruin (18,183) by Donald, a black tan and white dog, ex Blue Thistle, was born August, 1884. She has the reputation of being the highest quality and best Blue Marled Collie of all time. She is not with us now to compare with the best of the present period, but her show bench record has never been equalled by any other of the colour of any period. She won many first prizes in open competition against all colours, including eight championships, but her finest performance was the winning of the Collie Club trophy at the thirty-first Kennel Club Show in 1888, and she won at Birmingham, Crystal Palace, Darlington, London, Barn Elms, etc. Blue Ruin was a

beautiful colour, and in all respects a lovely Collie, so shapely that when out of coat she could have been a champion Smooth. She went out to America in 1890, where she has been the means of establishing the colour. Since its introduction into that country the Blue Marle Collie has been most popular, and to-day it may be truthfully written that the demand is greater than the production.

Mr. J. A. Doyle is another gentleman who has contributed much to the cultivation of the Blue Marle. Almost alone he stuck tenaciously to them during the reactionary period subsequent to Mr. Arkwright's retirement. He has been their most faithful follower and consistent patron in adversity, and is now enthusiastically participating in their revival. This gentleman's devotion is the more remarkable as his greatest successes and breeding operations are associated more with another breed. Mr. Doyle has for years not only bred and worked hard to improve the quality, but he has guaranteed classes and never failed to purchase a good specimen when exhibited with the hope of popularising them. The final achievement of his ambition, to see Blue Marles plentiful, popular, and of high quality, will be an acceptable reward for such devotion.

Mr. S. Boddington, of Birmingham, exhibited at the Agricultural Hall, London, in 1888, a very nice Blue Marle in Bluebeard, and won second Puppy and third Open classes. He was bred by the Rev. —. Thomas, by Rob Roy McGregor ex Blue Belle, by Redheart ex Blue Stocking. Rob Roy McGregor was by Highlander ex Hasty.

Barwell Lass was one of the first Collies Mr. John Powers exhibited. This was a lovely coloured, marked, and coated Blue Marled bitch. She was shown in Open competition, and did some winning. She was by Sir Robert



BILLESLEY BLUE BEAUTY.

ex Fan, by Prince George ex Bloom. Sir Robert by Trevor ex Gyp. Trevor was brother to the famous Ch. Charlemagne. The Blue Marles had a close time after the disappearance of Barwell Lass. Birmingham breeders were the first to begin the revival in earnest, and one of Mr. Arkwright's scattered stud was secured to assist the breeding operation in the dog, Blue Devils. The method adopted by Birmingham fanciers was to put quality typical sable or tri-colour (the latter colour preferred) bitches to him; they preserved the blues, and by crossing them with such noted quality Collies as Portington Bar None some considerable improvement in quality has been attained. For several years Mr. Barlow persevered with them, and not without some success; indeed, a marked improvement was noticeable in each successive generation, but it cannot be written truthfully that unqualified success was made evident by the exhibits seen at our shows until the debut of the best of the present period.

The best Blue Marled Collie dog that we have now is undoubtedly Mr. J. A. Doyle's Blue Clink, a dog claimed by his owner at the Birmingham Show of 1904, where he was second in the Open class. This is a magnificent coloured and coated dog of the right type, and should help the colour along. He is by Yardley Merle Emerald ex Whiston Daisy, by Balgreggie Ben ex Whiston Rose.

Yardley Merle Emerald by Southport Sequah ex Yardley Blue Bell, by Blue Devils ex Lady.

One of the best show specimens we have which has appeared at the time of writing is unquestionably the bitch Blue Princess Alice, the property of Mr. C. White. For quality and type she probably is the best we have seen. She is a big winner in open competition. Her pedigree reads—by Royal Amethyst, out of Bonny Girl, by Wellesbourne

Conqueror ex Highgate Emerald, by Ch. Ormskirk Emerald ex Billesley Beau Ideal.

Royal Amethyst by Edgbaston Royal ex Highgate Daisy, by Portington Bar None ex Blue Fancy, by Edgbaston Premier.

The author exhibited at the Birmingham Show, 1905, Billesley Blue Beauty, which is the latest good show specimen. She won second Novice any colour. She is by Billesley Buller (sable) ex Billesley Bluey (a beautiful blue). The writer has taken the cult of the Marles in hand earnestly, and one hears of other converts and recruits to what is a very pretty fancy.

A perusal of this brief account of the Blue Marled Collie as a show specimen will clearly demonstrate the important fact that the present-day representatives are direct descendants of Mr. W. Arkwright's strain, which is the foundation blood.

It will also be seen that the manifest improvement which has taken place in their quality has been effected by the crossing of the Blue Marles with the best quality and most typical Collies obtainable irrespective of colour.

Thus having shown that breeders have succeeded in retaining the desired colour in a quality combination, it is reasonable to prognosticate that future breeding operations will produce Blue Marled Collies on an equality with Collies of any colour. Let us hope this will be so, and that our beautiful coloured subject will play a more significant role in future competitions.

CH. HEATHERFIELD TIP.

Chapter V.—The Smooth Coated Collie.

The Smooth coated Collie has during the last decade made material progress in every way. As a show dog he is as typical and as perfect as his Rough coated kinsman. As a utility dog he is on an equality, and is quite as highly esteemed by the shepherd for his usefulness.

In no way is the Smooth different or inferior with the exception of the coat, and the admirers of the breed would not allow that he is inferior in this respect; indeed, there is much more merit in the quality of a good Smooth coat than the casual observer would recognise. In dealing with this variety as distinct from the Rough, I purpose giving briefly its history from its earliest show days. In the early days of dog shows the Smooth Collie did not appeal to the fancier as did the Rough; neither did the variety gain in popularity as a fashionable companion, at least, not in a small degree comparable with its more gorgeously coated brethren. There is no doubt that the latter embellishment has assisted the Rough coated specimen considerably to public favouritism somewhat at the expense of the Smooth.

Prior to 1877, classes were provided for Smooths at several shows, namely, the Kennel Club and other large shows, and at Darlington Show there could usually be seen quite representative collections. The local breeder, Mr. T. B. Swinburne, no doubt did much to popularise the Smooth variety in his district, as this gentleman was one of the earliest exhibitors. Birmingham National Dog Show Society was one of the earliest shows at which really meritorious specimens appeared, and in the year 1877 the variety were specially catered for in the Birmingham schedule, the most notable exhibits being Mr. H. Mapple-

beck's Fan (Blue Marle), Mr. W. W. Thomson's Yarrow (black tan and white), and Mr. T. B. Swinburne's Lassie (black tan and white). The first-named was the winner, and Mr. Mapplebeck's Fan was admittedly the very best of her variety being exhibited in those days.

As it was with the Rough coated variety, the colour of the Smooths was in its early days varied. For many subsequent years little attention was bestowed upon them. There were little or no signs of a growing popularity, or of any notable inclination on the part of fanciers to adopt more studious breeding operations with the object of raising their standard of quality. At this time the procuring of exhibition specimens was left to the mere chance of spotting them whilst they were following their occupation as working Sheepdogs, and consequently it is not surprising to learn that it is true that in many cases the best of this period were secured for a very meagre monetary consideration. By this means good specimens came from Ireland, Scotland, Wales, and, in fact, from all parts of the British Isles.

Mr. Alexander Hastie, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, introduced many good specimens, and was very successful for some years with Smooth Collies, and in no little measure pioneered the variety along into more prosperous times, thereby helping to establish something more tangible and acceptable in the history and the pedigree of this breed. The most noted dogs owned by Mr. Hastie were Herdsman, Herdwick Hermit, Herdwick King, and Herdwick Smoker, of the pedigree of which very little was known. However, the last-named dog was a very good all-round Collie of the Blue Marle colour, and comes into prominence in the pedigrees of the present-day celebrities. As in home-bred Smooths of any very great notoriety, the first to be produced was Ch. Pickmere, who was bred by Mr. F. Hurst, of Knutsford, and afterwards owned by Mr. A. H.

CH. PRESTON VETO.

Megson. Pickmere was a black tan and white dog of considerable merit, and picked up a big reputation in Mr. Megson's name. He was born in January, 1888, his sire being Ko Ko (reputed to be Rough), and his dam was given as Snow.

In May, 1889, Criterion Johnny, a Blue Marle, won first prize at Dublin Show. The sire of Criterion Johnny was the Rough coated Hopscotch, which was by Rutland ex Patience. The dam of Johnny was a very small Blue Marle, a very clever worker with sheep; her name was Blue Light. We now come to a lovely quality bitch that had great influence in the betterment of the Smooth Collie, as will be shown as we follow the descent. This was Ch. Heatherfield Dot, which was by a brother to Ch. Metchley Wonder (a Rough), and her dam was the afore-mentioned Blue Light. Heatherfield Dot was an ideal quality Blue Marle, with a perfectly chiselled head, nice ears, pleasing expression, and a coat that is seldom equalled. Whilst writing of her it may be of interest to know of her discovery and her history. Her introduction to show life was not altogether without pathos, in which the author was a principal.

When residing at Kingsheath I had many times noticed when hacking round the neighbourhood of Yardley Wood an old man who was a bailiff on the Warstock Farm, and who was always accompanied by a Smooth Collie bitch, which I thought a good one. One day I dismounted and obtained a close scrutiny of her, which at once confirmed my opinion, for her quality was unmistakable. She way lying on the old man's coat, which she would not allow me to approach, but dared me where I stood. I made the old man several offers, but in vain.

Strange to write, Warstock Farm is now the adjoining farm to The Homestead, my present residence. For twelve months I tried to secure the bitch, but failed, until circum-

stances and fortune favoured me, as in the purchase of some property from the owner of the Warstock Farm, the only abatement or allowance I could get from the terms asked was brought about by my offer to settle if he would let me have the Collie bitch working on the farm. This he accepted, and the future Ch. Heatherfield Dot became my property. She was at once entered for Birmingham Show in the name of Billesley Blue Eyes; v.h.c. was her card, the judge explaining to me afterwards that she was too small. She was disposed of to Mr. Wheeler, who sold her to Mr. F. Hurst, and finally she became the property of Mr. Megson, at this period the final destination of most good Smooth Collies as well as Roughs. After she left my kennel I do not think, writing from memory, that she knew defeat, and won her championship quickly. She was clever with cattle and sheep, and would fetch the old stockman's dinner, coat, or anything given to her at the house. The pathetic side of the story is that the taking away of the old man's canine pal and helpmate quite broke him up, and he soon left the situation he had long and faithfully filled. Though I often see him now he has never quite forgiven me, nor will he accept of my sympathy or any reparation. I would have given him back his idol, but, alas! it had passed from my power. It may be news and instructive to breeders to learn that some of Ch. Heatherfield Dot's descendants are still in the village of Yardley Wood. They are mongrels which originated from a mesalliance of Heatherfield Dot.

I crave the indulgence of my readers for such a lengthy description of one dog in which the author is too conspicuous, but it has always been a vivid reminiscence to me, and feelingly it is given as, perhaps, interesting from a novice Smooth fancier point of view. To proceed, we next come to two of the very best in their day in Ch. Heatherfield Tip and Ch. Heatherfield Nip. These were

CH. BABETTE OF MORETON.

bred by Mr. W. P. Phillips in August, 1892, and were by Jack Sheppard ex Ancrum Peeress. As we continue the history and descent of the Smooth, it becomes apparent that more careful methods of breeding were adopted. Pedigree, and better quality material, begin to show a harvest in accordance with the better seed sown and the improved cultivation, consequently the variety begins to show some healthful signs of progression.

The good Smooth Ch. Gold Nugget appeared next, a blue marle. He was by the aforementioned Ch. Heatherfield Tip ex Heatherfield Gyp, bred by Mr. J. Brown; he was born March, 1894.

In September, 1893, Mr. A. H. Megson bred Busy Bee and Ballochmyle Max, by Ch. Heatherfield Tip ex Ch. Heatherfield Dot.

Following the line of pedigree carefully, it will be seen how the present-day model of perfection has been influenced and built up.

In October, 1895, Ch. Veto and Ch. Village Girl were bred by Mr. J. Bell, and were by Herdwick Smoker ex Busy Bee.

Mr. A. Dunmore's Irthlingboro' Village Boy was bred by Mr. Robson in May, 1897, and was by Herdsman ex Whitfield Daisy, by Elf King, by Top out of May Queen.

Mr. J. Hough's Whiteley Lass was bred by Mr. Burne in April, 1896, was by Ch. Gold Nugget ex Richmond Countess by The Wonder ex Rose of Eccleshill, by Verdant Chief ex Acme. The Wonder was by Mangan's Scot ex Nell.

Mr. F. Hurst's Heatherfield Sky was bred by Mr. C. Metcalf in October, 1897, and was by Veto ex Grace Darling.

Mr. I. Smalley's Bakewell Beauty comes in the growing improving co-mixture of Smooth blood getting established on sound orthodox principles of breeding. She was

bred by Mr. J. Hough, June, 1897, by Veto ex Whitley Lass.

Ch. Irthlingboro' Village Lass follows along the line as the great-granddaughter of Ch. Heatherfield Dot, and granddaughter to The Early Herdsman. This charming Village Lass was bred by Mr. A. Dunmore in September, 1898, by Irthlingboro' Village Boy ex Ch. Village Girl.

At this point the names of some of the more famous reigning lights of the present Smooth Collie fancy appear.

In October, 1899, Mr. Mumford Smith's Ashford Bluebell was bred by Mr. I. Smalley, and was by Ashford Royal (a Rough) ex Bakewell Beauty. Ashford Royal was by Edgbaston Royal (Rough) ex Curzon Blue Betty (Rough).

Ch. Babette of Moreton is produced next, born February 17, 1900. She was bred by Mr. A. Dunmore, and became the property of the late Mr. H. H. Jones. At this gentleman's decease she passed into the hands of the great enthusiast and patron of the variety, Lady Alexander of Ballochmyle. This was unquestionably the very best bitch of this variety that at the time of writing has ever been exhibited. She was, indeed, idealistic, a lovely true type, an exquisite quality bitch, with hardly a fault in her formation. She always took a lot of beating by the best Roughs, and in 1902, at the Collie Club Show of that year, won the Club's challenge trophy for the best Collie of any variety in the show.

She was by Irthlingboro' Village Boy ex Ch. Village Girl, so it will be seen that she was the granddaughter of The Early Herdsman, and a great-granddaughter of Ch. Heatherfield Dot. At this point a lot of the Rough coated blood was infused into the Smooth, therefore it is worthy to note that Babette was almost entirely of Smooth blood.

Mr. F. Wildgoose's Canute Fascination was bred by Mr. I. Smalley in May, 1901, by Ashford Clinker ex Ashford

CH. DOON HEIRESS.

Countess, by Blue Diamond (a Rough blue marle) ex sister to Heatherfield Sky. Ashford Clinker was by Ashford Royal ex Bakewell Beauty. Blue Diamond was by Ch. Portington Bar None ex Blue Fancy. It will be noticed that this good Smooth, Canute Fascination, was of Smooth blood, with a strong splash of Rough blue marle blood in it.

Arriving at the pedigree of the present-day exhibits, the name of Ch. Barden Venture appears frequently enough to prove his influence has been that of a really great sire. He is a black tan and white dog, possessing all-round good qualities. The only regret can be that nothing whatever is known of his extraction, but his success as a sire suggests a pure inheritage.

One of the very best exhibition Smooth Collie dogs known of all time is Ch. Canute Perfection, which was bred by Mr. F. Farish in July, 1902. His pedigree reads by Count of Moreton (a beautiful-headed Rough, short of coat) ex Marston Amy, which is by Canute Wonder, ex Howick Countess by Veto, ex Euxton Countess by Gold Nugget ex North End Countess. Count of Moreton by Elwyn Astrologer ex Fanny of Moreton, by Edgbaston Royal ex Elwyn Lenore.

It is worthy of notice the great influence of the Rough coated Collie here in the best dog of the period.

The success of this union of Smooth and Rough is confirmed in the following year, for probably the best young bitch of her time is Mr. Mumford Smith's Ch. Eleanor de Montfort, which, it will be seen, is full sister to Canute Perfection. She was born June 6, 1903, by Count of Moreton ex Marston Amy.

Mr. T. H. Stretch has invariably been represented at our shows by some very successful Smooths; Ormskirk Venice by Ch. Barden Venture ex Ormskirk Bluebelle is a

prominent winner that has beaten most of the present-day champions, and is a very typical high-class Smooth. At the Collie Club Show, 1906, she won the championship, and repeated the performance of Ch. Babette of Moreton by winning the 60 guinea trophy for the best Rough or Smooth dog or bitch in the show. She was directly afterwards purchased by the Honourable N. C. Rothschild.

Lady Alexander's Ch. Doon Heiress is another charming specimen of the variety. The most modern dog of great merit to be dealt with in right up-to-date history is Mr. R. G. Howson's Sunnybrae Perfection, a beautiful type of Smooth, possessing excellent all-round qualities that promise to influence the future of the Smooth along the same prosperous highway it has of late travelled. This dog is by Ch. Canute Perfection ex Rockcliffe Queen, and was born September, 1903. At Birmingham Show, 1905, a notable collection was seen, perhaps the best ever grouped taken all round. The champion dog was Canute Model, by Ch. Canute Perfection ex Canute Beauty. The bitch championship went to Quality of Dunkirk, by Winckley Pilot ex Canute Fascination. Both winners were of the beautiful and desirable type, and no more convincing proof of the improvement made is necessary than is provided by the keenness of competition at Birmingham Show where such noted champions as Ch. Canute Perfection, Ch. Sunnybrae Perfection, and Ch. Eleanor de Montfort could not take premier honours. At the Collie Club Show, 1906, another remarkable show of Smooth Collies was seen; indeed, it was an historic day for the variety, for probably the first time in the history of the competition, two Smooths—Ch. Ormskirk Venice and Eastwood Eminent—were finalists for the 60 guinea trophy, the former winning.

Eastwood Eminent by Sunnybrae Perfection ex

CH. ORMSKIRK VENICE.

Quality of Dunkirk, a ten months puppy, made a very successful *debut*, winning the championship. He is a beautiful quality typical Smooth, of the highest merit, a certain champion, and perfectly bred. There are Smooths with us that have not been mentioned here; I would, if possible, include them all, but this is obviously impossible. However, these rightly take their place in the line that has been so heavily added to in more recent times; the few thin lines of early days have become doubled and trebled, until they may be compared to a column of lineage lines as representing different strains. The early progenitors have been dealt with, and these are the least familiar to present-day novices. The up-to-date specimens are with us, and may be seen at most of our shows.

The observant fancier must feel impressed by the perfection of the modern Smooth Collie. Indeed, the author does not hesitate to write that the variety, taken generally, is more consistently regular in type and quality, and probably nearer the ideal, than is its more favoured blood relation—the Rough coated Collie.

Remarkable progress has been made by breeders, for it is only during the last few years that very earnest attention has been paid to the improvement of this self-evident useful variety. That the improvement aimed at has been effected there is no manner of doubt. An influence that has contributed very materially to this satisfactory condition of the Smooth Collie's position is the active interest that several leaders of the aristocracy have shown in it. It is always a healthful sign when titled wealthy patrons begin to associate themselves prominently with a particular variety, and no one will deny the stimulating effect the patronage of Lady Alexander and the Hon. N. C. Rothschild has had on the Smooth Collie fancy.

The pedigrees given will serve as a reference that will

show the particular dogs that have had the most potent influence in the production of the modern excellent specimens.

It is very clear that the blood of the Rough coated Collie has been drawn upon pretty freely, and the infusion has had a significant beneficial influence as a great factor in improving the quality and type of the Smooth. It will be seen that the blood of the following Rough coated dogs is in the veins of our best Smooths :—Hopscotch, Metchley Wonder, Ch. Portington Bar None, Elwyn Astrologer, Edgbaston Royal, and Count of Moreton.

Recruits to the ranks of the Smooth coated Collie fancy cannot do better than subscribe to the club that has for its objects the fostering and improvement of the breed.

The following is the Smooth Coated Collie Club's description and standard of points :—

HEAD.– Should be in proportion to dog's size; skull moderately wide between the ears, and flat, tapering to the end of the muzzle, which ought to be of a fair length, but not too snipy, with only a slight stop.

TEETH.—Strong and white. The top jaw fitting nicely over the lower, and where much over or at all under shot, it should count against the dog.

EYES.—Of almond shape, set obliquely in the head, and the shade consistent with the colour of the dog. A full or staring eye is very objectionable.

EARS.—Small, and when the dog's attention is attracted, carried semi-erect; but when in repose it is natural for them to be laid back.

NECK.—Long and well arched, and shoulders muscular and sloping.

BACK.—Rather long, strong, and straight, the loin slightly arched, and the chest fairly deep, but not too wide.

FEET.—Compact, knuckles well sprung, claws strong and close together, pads cannot be too hard.

CH. CANUTE PERFECTION.

FORELEGS.—Straight and muscular, with a fair amount of bone. The hind legs should be rather wide apart, with stifle well bent, forming sicklehocks.

COAT.—Short, dense flat coat, with good texture, with an abundance of undercoat.

SYMMETRY.—The dog should be of fair length on the leg, and his movements active and graceful.

HEIGHT.—Dogs, 22 to 24 inches; bitches, 20 to 22 inches.

TAIL.—Of medium length, and when the dog is standing quietly, should be slightly raised, but more so when excited.

SCALE OF POINTS.

Head	25
Ears	15
Body	15
Legs and Feet	15
Coat	25
Tail	5
	100

Chapter VI.—Intelligence, Utility, Training.

Though one of the most intelligent, sagacious, and affectionate varieties of the canine race, with good looks and utility combined in his possession, to an unwarrantable degree, the Collie, both Rough and Smooth, is still the victim of prejudice.

Besides a growing popularity, biassed, unqualified detractors have appeared periodically in the unpaid columns of the Canine Press.

Some of these fancier philosophers breathe upon us their regrets, scientific theories, and conclusions on the decadence of the Collie. They can recognise mental deterioration and vanishing utility of the Collie as a Sheepdog.

The cynic sneers, and says he has been sacrificed on the altar of " a-la-mode."

In the club and in the street one hears that he is treacherous. This is wholly to be attributed to a want of knowledge of the true character and temperament of the Collie. Many of these writers base their conclusions upon the result of a study of coarse Carlo, the spoilt house pet. The cynic's contribution often emanates from a little top room, many leagues away from the greensward of the sheepfold. These detractors have but a superficial knowledge of the utility of our present-day Collie. Enlightenment would accompany a day's practical experience in the field with some of our most fashionable pedigree, alleged inbred, recent prize-winners.

Ample proof has demonstrated to the writer that the modern Collie is by nature a good tempered, reliable, intelligent dog, and as a workman the most useful of the

INTELLIGENCE.

canine race. To the admirer of the Collie it needs but little power of character reading to discern in the characteristic expression an ardent desire to serve and steadfast obedience portrayed. Many an owner who has possessed one that has been well-trained as a pal could admit that he had felt the impression of the devotional response spoken through the expressive eyes of his faithful dog when spoken to kindly or unkindly.

The typical expression of the Collie seems to say, "What may I do next for you; always at your service, sir?" The reason for such distinctive servile obedience is that it is innate; it has become a natural instinct, as the result of the breed having been carefully fostered and trained for generations in performing duties required of a dog following its historical occupation of a Sheepdog. Only those who have an intimate knowledge of the absolutely indispensable services rendered by Sheepdogs in some of the mountainous districts of the United Kingdom can understand the submission and obedience necessary in the natural disposition of a dog to allow a successful training for this work, as the most important part of the dog's work has to be done at a considerable distance from his master, where it would be impossible to restrain one of a wayward disposition.

It speaks much for the thoughtful judgment used by our predecessors, the early shepherds, in the amelioration of these natural qualities.

The Collie is extremely sensitive, and some of the cleverest of workers could be accredited with shyness. Some of our trainers will advise you that they prefer the canine pupil to be on the shy, sensitive side, rather than of a bold wayward disposition; as the former is more easily kept in hand, and with patience will finally become the most obedient, reliable worker.

In training the Collie to usefulness, it is imperative that

his sagacious nature be considered. There should be forbearance of harsh treatment—the use of the stick or whip is unnecessary,—for with a sensitive but good pupil injudicious corporal punishment that is apt to take place in moments of impatience or annoyance would produce such fear that would take a long course of kindly treatment to expunge, as the Collie possesses a most retentive memory, especially when the victim of drastic treatment from his master. To the impatient owner whose trend of ideas dictate to him that thrashing is an important necessity to good training, a breed of a more stubborn disposition, such as a Foxhound, would be better suited.

The inherent nature of our subject is freedom. A life of activity is his bent. Therefore, it is not surprising that when set at liberty after confinement, he should show a great inclination for racing about in a wild manner, a practice that often is attributed to silliness; albeit, he is easily restrained if taught to understand words of command, the severity of which should be regulated by the degree of obedience displayed, for he will soon know his master, and with magic-like quickness discern by the tone of voice whether it means anger or amenity.

The Rough-coated Collie being very handsome and attractive, his good looks make him popular. Invariably strangers will fuss with him. In the house he is adopted as a pet, consequently he is brought up like a spoilt child. His temper and manners are too often made undesirable by indulgent but indiscreet treatment.

From puppyhood he generally meets with caresses from feminine admirers. Naturally such treatment has the effect of making him ever ready to make friends, and to fuss with strangers. This has often caused him to be branded with the unjust appellation of Fool.

The writer has often heard such arguments used as evidence against the Collie.

UTILITY

Any thoughtful man who has but a superficial knowledge of the training of a dog will know that the badly behaved, uncontrollable dogs are thus through want of a little education, or may be they are only what they have been made. Many of these spoilt Collies are in reality faithful to their training by becoming easy dupes to the dog caresser.

It is astonishing what a number of people there are—even apart from the professional dog stealer—who are ever eager to find a good looking dog before he is lost; but give the Collie the same reception from strangers as is usually served to the abject mongrel, kicks instead of caresses, and no breed of dog will more readily interpret the meaning and exercise a greater degree of intelligence and cunningness in avoiding the repetition of such treatment.

It may also be said that few varieties possess the same high degree of homing instinct as does the Collie. The writer has known many remarkable instances of Collies returning home long distances over roads hitherto unknown to them.

One of my earliest experiences of the sagacity of the Collie may be said to have been responsible for my taking them up extensively. I had purchased a puppy, about eight months old, by Sefton, the sire of Metchley Wonder. It was removed from a yard in Birmingham, from which it had never previously emerged, and taken to King's Heath by train. The same evening of the day of removal it was taken to Barnt Green, another eight miles distance. Immediately on arrival it escaped. Next morning, on my servant opening the door at my King's Heath residence, the lost Collie was found sitting on the step. This was remarkable considering that she had previously only been kennelled there for a few hours.

Another instance comes to the writer's mind:—Two

puppies were sent out to be reared at a farm ten miles away, and four miles from a railway station, where they had their liberty night and day. When seven-and-a-half months old they were fetched home. On nearing the busy thoroughfares of Birmingham they showed a decided fear and objection to the unusual surroundings encountered, and became so obstreperous that one managed to slip his collar. The next news of him was that he had made his way, intricate though it was, back to the farm from whence he came.

Another instance of sagacity or instinct in the Collie is worth recording. A black tan and white dog that was well-known in the Birmingham markets, was accustomed to accompany his master to Liverpool, whence he travelled by train weekly to attend the Cattle Market. On one occasion the dog, for some unaccountable reason, absented himself at the usual time his master returned home, consequently he was left behind in Liverpool. Next day he turned up in Birmingham foot sore and contrite. It was clearly proved that he had come on foot, as he was well-known to the railway company's servants, and had been seen by them at various stages on the line.

As I write the Postman brings my paper, *Our Dogs*. The first item that I catch sight of is that a well known fancier at Leicester sent a Collie by train to a buyer thirty miles away, and the dog returned to his former master a few days after, having escaped and returned by road.

Many of the stories that could be told of the sagacity and fidelity of the Collie may seem incredulous, but the incidents mentioned come within the knowledge of the writer, who can vouch for their correctness.

There can be no manner of doubt that the Collie is capable of performing the duties of a Sheepdog in a creditable way if his education be in the hands of a competent trainer.

CH SUNNYBRAE PERFECTION.

Twenty-five years ago very few Sheepdogs could be trusted to gather sheep from the open moor or mountain. The Welsh shepherds used a Heeler, usually a cur or a Smooth Collie, whose natural propensity was to nip the heels of the cattle or ponies, and just as cleverly to dodge the kick that invariably followed the bite. The shepherd's dog was only trained to chase back to the hills cattle and sheep that had strayed down to the low pasture lands reserved for hay or winter grazing. The Heeler delighted in heeling and chasing away, but had no idea of gathering or heading sheep.

Now we have a Sheepdog, often a pure prize-bred Collie, more obedient and better trained, that will work in any direction at command, and that may be relied upon to safely gather sheep miles away from the shepherd, drive them anywhere, drop or halt by distant signals, and be under the most perfect control. No doubt this perfect training and greater utility of the Sheepdog has been attained by using the better bred natural Sheepdog, the Collie, and by more scientific methods of training.

The thoughtful experienced breeder recognises that the older generation of Sheepdog has been supplanted by Collies of a purer Sheepdog pedigree that are, in reality, more reliable and show more cleverness at their work. Should my readers feel sceptical on this point, I recommend a course of Sheepdog trials as a convincing specific for the unbelieving.

The great advancement in the art of training Sheepdogs is due to the influence of these competitions. Since Lord Rothschild introduced Sheepdog trials into the South of England they have been held annually with the greatest success at Tring Park. It is no surprise to anyone who has witnessed such trials that they are becoming more general every year in the sheep-breeding districts of Great Britain. They are now held in England, Ireland, Scotland,

and Wales, in connection with agricultural shows, and are often the greatest attraction. A well-trained Sheepdog will save the farmer as much labour as any labour-saving agricultural implement yet invented, if he has work for the Sheepdog to do.

We hear and see too little of these interesting wonderful exhibitions of the working Sheepdog's abilities. Ch. Ormskirk Charlie, a son of Ch. Christopher, is an exemplification of a working Collie that rose to the highest rank of fame in that direction by gaining the title of champion, not as a show dog, but as a champion at field trials. He was also a winner in the show ring. His owner, Mr. R. S. Piggin, has been a great friend to the show Collie. He has proved to the public by practical demonstrations at field trial competitions that it has the instinctive qualities of a natural Sheepdog.

The cleverness shown by his Collies at competitive Sheepdog trials has tended to disabuse the minds of thousands of people that were prejudiced against the show dog, who would now supplement his epithet with "Handsome is, handsome does." Mr. Piggin is an old-time exhibitor, and some years ago often judged Collies. As a breeder, his first principle is to breed for a perfect Collie; he has afterwards endeavoured, with success, to make his product a perfect Sheepdog. It seems a good many years since I first saw Ormskirk Charlie win in the ring, and work at the same show. It was at Belper Show, late in the 'eighties, I believe. Ch. Edgbaston Fox had caused some little sensation by beating Ch. Christopher on the latter's first appearance after being sold for £1,000. Mr. Piggin had done some winning, and after lunch gave an exhibition that delighted me and fairly astounded some of the farmers present. Ormskirk Charlie's life and doings would make an interesting book. His fame has spread all over the world. He won the world's championship, and

CH. QUALITY OF DUNKIRK.

it has been written that he was the wisest Sheepdog that ever lived. Some people averred that he had reasoning faculties; and though it was impossible to say where instinct ended and reasoning began with him, his perceptive faculties were certainly a marvel. Mr. Piggin says of him: "I have never seen, and doubt whether I shall ever again own, his equal." Charlie was loved by all who knew him. He not only distinguished himself on the show bench and in the field, but more than once he has appeared on the stage; and by looking up *Our Dogs* an interesting article will be found on his acting the wolf in "Little Red Riding Hood." Mr. Piggin also owned the show bench and field trial winners, Marcus Superbus by Ch. Ormskirk Emerald, County Girl by Ormskirk Excelsior, and the wonderful headed successful show bitch and field trial winner, Emerald Mystery by Ch. Ormskirk Emerald ex Maid of Mystery by Ch. Portington Bar None.

Mr. Joseph Moses is also a well-known successful trainer and competitor with pedigree Collies at Sheepdog trials; his Ch. Old Pink is a famous worker and winner.

Mr. Bancroft is another of our best trainers and most successful competitors at Sheepdog trials with pedigree Collies and also Old English Sheepdogs. The advantages with pedigree Sheepdogs are that they are superior workers, are more handsome, therefore of greater commercial value either as show dogs, Sheepdogs, or companions.

Mr. John Powers used to work the famous Rough coated bitch Ch. Barwell Pearl at almost anything any breed of dog is accustomed to do on a large farm. A champion of the show ring, she was a faithful, intelligent pal; she would work clever either cattle or sheep, and, indeed, to my own knowledge, she was not at all bad to shoot over; she could, and would, find anything; in fact, was a bit of a poacher. In tricks she would jump through

her master's arms, hoops, etc., and was no mean trickster. A well-known exhibitor of Setters has two Collies that excel at both work with farm stock and at work usually performed by sporting dogs.

I have witnessed work done by pure fashionable pedigree Collies in different parts of the United Kingdom that has invariably excelled in point of cleverness the usual work done by many of the cross-breeds seen with farmers.

The Collie, apart from his capabilities as a Sheepdog, possesses other attributes that are calculated to render him suitable to be trained for many useful purposes, such as retrieving on land or water. He has proved of service on the battlefield both as scout and at ambulance work. On the theatrical stage he may be seen nightly doing his turn. Even as a blind man's guide the writer knows of an instance where the unfortunate beggar declared life impossible without his companion and guide, a Collie dog.

Some years ago a well-known associate of fanciers could be daily met with in one or other of the bars of the Birmingham hotels with a Collie bitch, a very fair specimen. She could be seen most days playing all-comers a game of cards for small or large stakes. The cards were placed on the floor, and she would, in her turn, denote which she would play. She invariably won, but, of course, her owner was the actual player, some secret signal being conveyed that she was taught to understand. Other tricks were performed by this clever Collie, and she was eventually sold to a nobleman simply on account of her cleverness. I believe she was by Sefton, sire of Metchley Wonder.

Early in the 'nineties the well-known prize-winner Westwood Wonder was specially marked by the mistaken critics as a narrow-skulled imbecile. He lived to confound his enemies. A brief account of how he did it will be interesting, and also instructive, as being applicable to

EASTWOOD EMINENT

similar outcries that have occasionally been heard about more modern Collies.

On April 22nd, 1892, there appeared in one of the canine journals an article on "The Collie and its Surroundings." Reference was made to some of the winning Collies exhibited at the Collie Club Show, and more especially to Westwood Wonder, exhibited by Mr. A. H. Megson, of Manchester, and second in the Dog class.

Westwood Wonder had been recently sold by Mr. T. P. Brearley to Mr. Megson. The special allusion made to Wonder was that he was one of the modern type; was too weak in head; and that, according to report, he was actually sold because he appeared to be lacking in intelligence, which his late owner subsequently contradicted through the press.

In the same article the supposed degeneracy was accounted for by in-and-in breeding, but seeing that Westwood Wonder was by Metchley Wonder ex Zenobia II., by Eclipse ex Lady Clare, by Wolf ex Ruby III., a reference to the chapter of history will disclose a sufficient refutation of this conclusion. The old breeder, Mr. Wheeler, after reading this article, declared to the writer that if ever he had the opportunity to purchase Wonder, he would prove the fallacy of such unqualified statements.

The opportunity presented itself, but not until the dog was over four years old. On change of ownership he was afterwards known as Edgbaston Wonder. He was immediately put through a training course, with the result that the very dog that had been publicly defamed as wanting in canine common sense soon displayed remarkable intelligence, and several times performed publicly, earning the plaudits of admiring crowds for the cleverness and variety of his performances. In 1894 Mr. T. P. Brearley witnessed Wonder showing wonderful

obedience and learning. He declared that he could find more pleasure in owning such a dog absolutely as a pal than in winning prizes at our shows.

Mr. Brearley finally purchased Wonder, and so became his owner for the second time. He vowed that he would value Wonder for his obedience and intelligence, and was so influenced to give up keeping Collies for exhibition purposes, and from that time Mr. Brearley, who had been one of our leading fanciers, together with his pal, Edgbaston Wonder, disappeared from active participation in the fancy.

Pathetic was the end of Edgbaston Marvel, a name that is pre-eminently conspicuous in the pedigree of the up-to-date Collie.

This dog showed intelligence almost human. Good training developed a sagacious, obedient nature to a remarkable degree of merit. To know Marvel was to be impressed by his honest, sensible outlook. His sense of understanding seemed keener than that of some human beings.

I have known him left in the street, glued to his post, for hours, until his master's welcome voice has relieved him of duty.

Mr. Megson gave £500 for Marvel, and after a sojourn of several years at this gentleman's kennel, he was transferred to Mr. Stretch as part payment in the purchase of Ormskirk Emerald.

Poor old Marvel must have become attached to the associations of Mr. Megson's home, for his stay at the Ormskirk kennel was of short duration, ending in tragedy, for in a few days after his removal to Ormskirk he made his escape, and was returning along the main line to Manchester when the faithful distinguished old canine servant met with an untimely death by collision with an express train. His sight and hearing were getting

EMERALD MYSTERY AT WORK.

somewhat dim with age, otherwise, no doubt, he would have been too smart for the train.

I often think we fanciers would show a more genuine regard for the friend of man we profess to glorify if we perpetuated the memory of some of our worthy canines that have had distinguished lives and benefited us by their influence by permanent trophies for competition, instead of encouraging testimonials to their more lucky owners.

The author can produce at the time of writing a bitch by Wishaw Clinker that is a living proof that the modern prize-winning Collie, as a working Sheepdog, or trickster, or companion, is no fool. After reading this chapter, should any fancier still honestly believe the Collie a fool, let him communicate with the writer, who will endeavour to arrange a practical demonstration that will convince him that it is a breed of exceptional intelligence and of great utility.

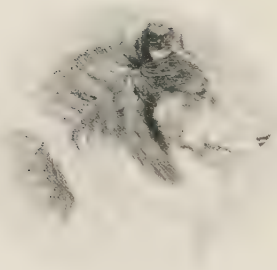
The Collie may be relied upon to give unto his master tenfold, if aided by education when young.

He seldom forgets old masters, but it can be accepted as correct that if ever anyone puts a dog through a course of training, the dog will become attached to the trainer to such a degree that he will never forget him. Though separated for years, he is almost certain to again recognise readily his old tutor. Training is essential to good manners, and novices seldom realise the beneficial effect a judicious course of schooling is to a dog of any variety.

The owner of a well behaved, obedient dog, could not tolerate an uncontrollable inferior.

Training becomes a pleasure as it proceeds; it brings out the best qualities of the dog, and makes him an acceptable companion by attaching him more closely to his master in true affection.

After many years of study and close observation of the Collie's character, the writer has no uncertain opinion of its faithful devoted nature, and it may be written in profound sincerity that the owner who possesses a well-trained Collie that he has made and treated as a pal should be, should adversity overtake him, should all human friends desert him, should he become homeless and starvation face him—providing his canine pal is a free agent—he will have a faithful friend to the last—ay, even more, for he has often refused to forsake his master even in death.



CORRECT TYPE.

Chapter VII.—The Correct Type.

Type, as interpreted in the cult of the Collie, is an element of inestimable importance. The word typical so often used in connection with Collies, should convey to the mind a mental picture of the Collie Sheepdog, beautified by modern improvement, yet still faithful in chief characteristics to the adopted desirable type. To be typical is to be true, and it is a moral duty of breeders to be loyal to the breed they presume to idolise. We cannot improve on the recognised ideal type; it is a beautiful creation. Let us perfect it on true lines by seeing that our breeding materials resemble the ideal. All will be well with us then whether the pursuit be for pleasure or profit, or both, and we shall be honoured by our descendants for handing down a Collie in truth and reality. The beginner will naturally inquire, What is the true type?

In making this as clear as possible some little prelude is necessary. The original basis that created the particular type in the minds of the earliest breeders of the show specimens may seem somewhat uncertain, therefore it will be instructive to make some reference to the Collie as it appeared before its introduction into exhibition life. At this period the Collie was in its natural state, the product of generations of careful study and selection in its amelioration, the one aim being to qualify it for work it had been proved to be instinctively adapted for, in rendering valuable assistance to man in the multifarious and intricate work which of necessity falls to the daily avocation of a working Sheepdog in the mountainous districts where sheep-breeding is the principal industry.

At this epoch it was recognised that no breed of dog had better claims than the Collie to intelligence, and it was much cherished for its sagacity and infallible faithfulness to its master. The then prevailing type furnished the original idea of the typical Collie from which our present-day Collies have descended. It was from such that the old-time breeder formulated descriptions of the desirable points of the Collie. The descriptions of the Collie as recognised and published by present-day Collie Clubs differ but little from the original, and in my opinion those original descriptions, with but one or two exceptions, are quite reliable guides for breeders to work to at the present time. It is not easy to write an intelligible description of every possession that is peculiar to the Collie, for the reason that some owners are more observant and spend more time with their favourites than others, and they discern peculiarities of demeanour and expression that are exclusively Collie, yet almost inexplicable, and hardly to be readily recognised by the beginner. However, the following description is my own idea of the desirable Collie: Undoubtedly the preponderating typical point of any dog is the head, because it is the strongest influence and the most marked characteristic in the dog; in fact, this applies to human and almost all living creation. The head signifies the variety to which a dog belongs, and more especially is the head a pronounced feature in the Collie.

THE SKULL should be moderately wide. SHAPE almost flat on forehead, with no protuberance over the eyes. STOP very slight, almost an imperceptible indentation, not abrupt, but tapering away to the muzzle without any full stops. A very slight suggestion of a Roman nose is admissible. It is a good omen when seen in a very young puppy. If not overdone it adds to the cunning foxy look of the dog, but when overdone it looks absurd. The stop should not be bred out of our Collies,

CHARACTER.

as it is characteristic, and adds to the intelligent expression of the dog. There is a tendency in some breeds to do this, as noticeable in down-faced St. Bernards, and some English Setters are leaning that way. Extremes are not advisable. I have seen animals exhibited in Collie classes with half-moon-shaped heads, consequently idiotic in expression. To me it suggests a Russian alliance.

THE MUZZLE should not be deep or flat-sided, nor should there be a sudden depression before the eyes. Under the eyes it should be nicely filled up with perfect evenness generally. In shape the tendency is to roundness, with a very gradual narrowing to the end of the nose. LIPS: They should be close-fitting and finishing distinct from squareness at the end of the muzzle. There should be no loose skin under the lower jaw, and no superfluity of gullet. CHEEK should not be prominent—it is coarseness.

THE HEAD altogether should taper gradually from occiput to nose, and should appear proportionate. LENGTH OF HEAD: It should be moderate in length and strength, consistent with the size of the dog, and free from exaggeration. The head that is of an abnormal length is not typical, therefore incongruous and faulty in the Collie.

THE EYE should be medium in size, a rich brown colour, and set oblique. Light yellow eyes are most objectionable, as they render an expression of stupidity. On the other hand, very dark, almost black eyes mar to some extent the pleasing, intelligent outlook of the Collie; a dark eye hardens the expression. The eye gives life and character to the head. In the Collie it is a gem that has great value as an influence in expression. It is the speaking feature of the animal. The observant breeder can often imagine a mute language in those honest attentive eyes. They, together with the

beautiful formation of the head, supply the sweet characteristic expression so attractive.

EXPRESSION. Do you ever study the countenance of your dog? It is as true an index of his character as that of the face of a human being. The expression peculiar to the typical Collie may be described as suggestive of combined intelligence, devotion, obedience, cunningness, and wistfulness. Of course, expression is varied, and, subject to local conditions, one can see an inquisitive expression when strangers appear. A well-trained Collie will give his master a wistful glance at sight of a hare, though restrained by good training; the expression that accompanies the smacking of his lips is most expressive of the dog's desire for unfettered freedom—a natural impulse to indulge in the chase.

The poetic picture written by Poet Burns is, though familiar by use, to me ever fresh, as beautifully and truthfully portraying the character of the true Collie:—

> He was a gash an' faithfu' tyke
> As ever lap a sheugh or dyke;
> His honest, sonsie, baws'nt face
> Aye gat him frien's in ilka place.
> His breast was white, his touzie back
> Weel clad wi' coat o' glossy black,
> His gaucie tail wi' upward curl
> Hung o'er his hurdies wi' a swirl.

Evidently Burns read deeply into his Collie Luath which inspired those lines. Almost every word seems laden with meaning so representative of the Collie—the shrewd, wise, faithful, honest, engaging, open, jolly look is all beautifully realistic. In the early days of dog shows the head was often described as an excellent foxy head, as fine, wolf-like in expression, and some of the old strain were often mistaken for tame foxes, and, indeed, there is

THE COLLIE CLUB TROPHY

undoubtedly a trace of similarity in the expression of the Collie. There is some confirmation that the earliest breeders held this view, for in bygone days Wolf and Fox were common names given to Collies.

EARS. They should be small, and carried semi-erect; low carried ears have the effect of diminishing the desired characteristic appearance of the dog, and ears carried extremely high should not be encouraged, for it would certainly cause trouble with tulip ears.

COAT. The coat should consist of a thick soft furry undercoat, very dense; the outercoat being more of the nature of hair, longer, and of a coarser nature than the undercoat; it should form quite a distinct cape on the shoulders. The mane and frill on the neck, together with the hair on breeches and brush, should be profuse. When the coat is at its best, and the undercoat is plentiful, the outercoat will not feel harsh to the touch, but it will feel so only when the undercoat is shed.

SHAPE. The build and symmetry should be strictly on the lines of activity and entirely free from cloddyness. He wants no superabundance of bone or flesh; elegantly built on working lines, he should be lithesome, light, and graceful in his movement.

LEGS AND FEET should be faultlessly sound.

The aforementioned may be said to mainly complete the typical Collie. Size is a most important matter to direct attention to, for it is at this point that the budding fancier is likely to stumble by allowing himself to be misled by the extraordinary exaggerated records too often claimed, and boldly advertised as virtues, respecting the heights and weights of Collies. Some may be true, but even though they be correct it is their misfortune, as it would render them nondescript counterfeits of the Collie. The typical Collies vary slightly in size, the medium sized dog, which is preferred, measuring at the shoulder about

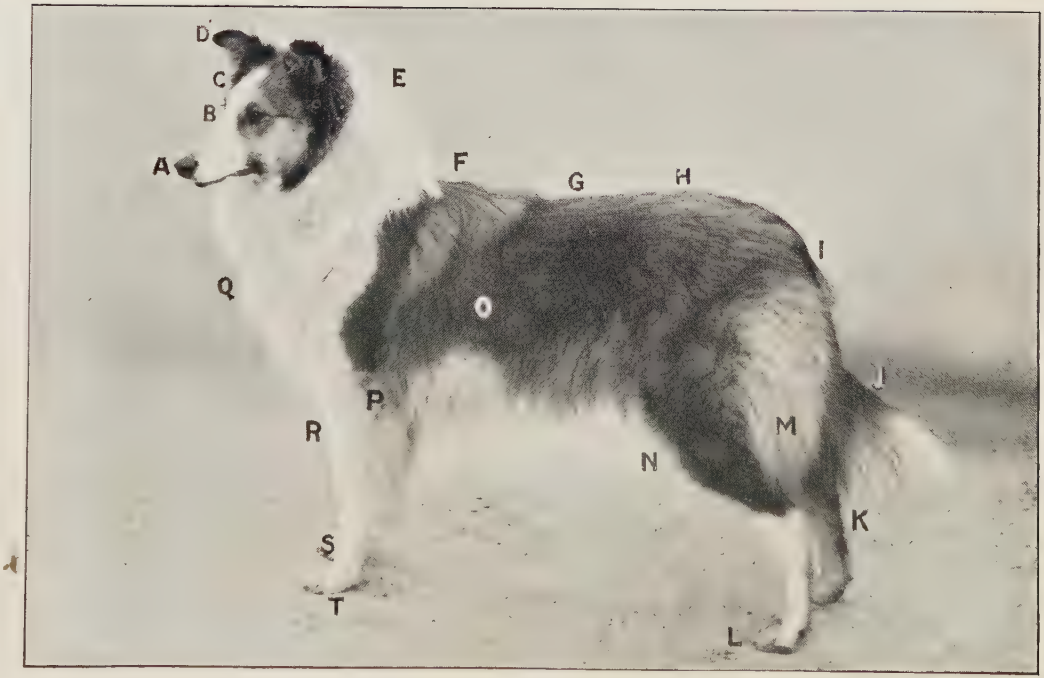
twenty-two inches, whilst the largest sized dogs should not measure more than twenty-four inches.

WEIGHT when in show condition should be from 45lb. to 60lb.; in working condition somewhat less. The bitches' average is slightly less than that of the dogs. No show Collie should exceed 60lb. in weight, for the obvious reason that if the description of the Collie is correct that he should be strictly on lines of activity, it seems a logical conclusion to arrive at that a Collie exceeding this weight must be loaded with a superfluity of something, and, consequently, cumbersome rather than active. The Collie Club's description of the Collie is a reliable guide for the breeder, but, unfortunately, many that believe this description to be correct do not adhere to it in their breeding, or in the show ring. I strongly advise the breeder to study the Collie Club's description; it is that of the typical desirable Collie. If you believe it, practise it in your operation; do not allow yourself to be led out of the way of the faithful by every wayfarer you meet who may pose as an authority, but know ye that it is the ambition of some to judge, not to breed or even exhibit a good Collie. They succeed in gaining their object and do judge, but, alas! they are seldom judges in the proper sense of the word, and consequently do not by word or by example encourage the novice to pay much attention to type.

The Collie Club's Description of Type of Collie.

REVISED BY THE COLLIE CLUB, OCTOBER, 1898.

THE SKULL should be flat, moderate wide between the ears, and gradually tapering to the eyes. There should only be a slight depression at top. The width of skull necessarily depends upon the combined length of



POINTS DELINEAMENT.

A Nostril.	F Shoulders.	K Hock.	P Elbow.
B Stop.	G Back.	L Foot.	Q Frill.
C Skull.	H Loin.	M Feathering.	R Forearm.
D Ear.	I Rump.	N Stifle.	S Pastern
E Neck.	J Tail.	O Ribs.	T Pad.

skull and muzzle, and the whole must be considered in connection with the size of the dog. The cheek should not be full or prominent.

THE MUZZLE should be of fair length tapering to the nose, and must not show weakness or be snipy or lippy. Whatever the colour of the dog may be, the nose must be black.

THE TEETH should be of good size, sound and level; very slight unevenness is permissible.

THE JAWS should be clean cut and powerful.

THE EYES are a very important feature, and give expression to the dog; they should be of medium size, set somewhat obliquely, of almond shape, and of a brown colour except in the case of Merles, when the eyes are frequently (one or both) blue and white or china; expression full of intelligence, with a quick alert look when listening.

THE EARS should be small and moderately wide at the base, and placed not too close together on top of the skull nor too much to the side of the head. When in repose they should be usually carried thrown back, but when on the alert brought forward and carried semi-erect, with tip slightly drooping in attitude of listening.

THE NECK should be muscular, powerful and of fair length, and somewhat arched.

THE BODY should be rather long, with well sprung ribs, chest deep, fairly broad behind the shoulders, which should be sloped, loins slightly arched and powerful. The dog should be straight in front.

THE FORE LEGS should be straight and muscular, neither in nor out at elbows, with a fair amount of bone; the forearm somewhat fleshy, the pasterns showing flexibility without weakness.

THE HIND LEGS should be muscular at the thighs, clean and sinewy below the hocks, with well bent stifles.

THE FEET should be oval in shape, soles well padded, and the toes arched and close together. The hind feet less arched, hocks well let down and powerful.

THE BRUSH should be moderately long, carried low when the dog is quiet, with a slight upward "swirl" at the end, and may be gaily carried when the dog is excited, but not over the back.

THE COAT should be very dense, the outer coat harsh to the touch, the inner or under coat soft, furry, and very close, so close as to almost hide the skin. The mane and frill should be very abundant, the mask or face smooth, as also the ears at the tips, but they should carry more hair towards the base; the fore legs well feathered, the hind legs above the hocks profusely so; but below the hocks fairly smooth, although all heavily coated Collies are liable to grow a slight feathering. Hair on the brush very profuse.

COLOUR immaterial.

GENERAL CHARACTER. A lithe active dog, his deep chest showing lung power, his neck strength, his sloping shoulders and well bent hocks indicating speed, and his expression high intelligence. He should be a fair length on the leg, giving him more of a racy than a cloddy appearance. In a few words, a Collie should show endurance, activity and intelligence, with free and true action.

SIZE AND WEIGHT. Dogs 22 ins. to 24 ins. at the shoulders, bitches 20 ins. to 22ins. Dogs 45 to 65 lbs., bitches 40 to 55 lbs.

THE SMOOTH COLLIE only differs from the Rough in its coat, which should be hard, dense and quite smooth.

FAULTS. Domed skull, high peaked occipital bone, heavy, pendulous or prick ears, weak jaws, snipy muzzle, full staring or light eyes, crooked legs, large flat or hare feet, curly or soft coat, cow hocks, and brush twisted or carried right over the back, under or overshot mouth.

MASTER CYRIL.

Chapter VIII.—Standard of Points.

Originally a standard of points was instituted, with the view of establishing an authoritative text scale of the relative values of the essential qualities separately, that collectively go to make up the desirable Collie.

Doubtless these early legislators were also guided by thoughts of the possibility of point judging eventually being in vogue. Whether this is so or not, we know that they were experienced breeders, experts of their day, well-qualified to establish laws for the protection of the Collie, and the guidance of the rising generation of breeders.

The scale of points as adopted by the Collie Clubs may not have any considerable weight with large breeders, and it is unlikely that it will ever be utilised as an aid to point judging in a general way; but it may be claimed that the existence of a standard of points has proved useful to novices by giving them a good idea of the value of the different possessions of the Collie in their breeding, thereby justifying the existence of a standard.

The truism, that "experts differ" is quite applicable to the comparative values that are applied to points. It is well-known that the scale of points as published by the Collie Club does not correctly represent the competent judge's valuation of points when summing up the merits of a Collie in actual competition. It is apparent to anyone that head, eye, expression, and ear carriage form the irresistible paramount individuality of the Collie, and are invariably estimated at more than 25 per cent. of the dog, wherever it be judged. In the kennel, the street, or the show, I say one and all, either thoughtfully or unconsciously, by force of the natural attractiveness of the head, attach more value to this possession than is

usually thought. It will be subsequently shown that our leading and oldest judges agree on this point.

The writer feels that on this subject novices are apt to be somewhat misled by attaching unmeant importance to the scale of points from an exhibition point of view.

A footnote accompanies the Collie Club's published scale of points, which reminds the student that point judging is not advocated, but figures are only made use of to show the comparative value attached to the different properties.

This is the Collie Club's Standard of Points:—

Head and expression	15
Ears	10
Neck and shoulders	10
Legs and feet	15
Hind quarters	10
Back and loins	10
Brush	5
Coat and frill	20
Size	5
Total	100

It may seem paradoxical to argue that a scale of points that can hardly be improved upon as a general guide to the inexperienced breeder, can be absolutely at variance with the real calculations of our best judges when making their awards; yet experience seems to confirm the truth of this view.

In making good this doctrine, firstly it seems that the premier Collie Club's scale of points is the safest standard to dominate the noviciate operations of the breeder, as a recognised standard that encouraged the impressionable tyro to devote 75 per cent. of his study to producing the one possession that he is taught to value, as 75 per cent. of the Collie would probably mean the

CH. ELEANOR DE MONTFORT.

eventual loss of characteristics equally as essential in the totalisation of the Collie.

The true fact is, a scale of points is for the beginner. The experienced breeder has no scale, nor does he require any.

For the enlightenment of my inexperienced readers I have canvassed the views of our best living authorities, who are old and successful breeders, exhibitors, and recognised judges whose evidence is irrefutable at least by competent fanciers.

I purpose including these, and hope my readers may benefit by the lessons they teach.

Mr. Hugo Ainscough writes:—

My dear Packwood,

I have no objection to giving you my ideal standard of points in the Collie, but, at the same time, I hardly know. As near as I can reckon it up I value them, viz.:—

Head	40
Eye	10
Ears	20
Coat	15
Legs and feet	10
Shape	5
Total	100

Mr. T. H. Stretch writes:—

My dear Packwood,

Yours received. I am not a great believer in a standard of points, as I always think they are misleading to the novice, but I will give you my idea, and we all know that if a dog is not good in head and ears he has very little chance for a prize in decent company. I should, therefore, put half the points

on head, ears, eye, and expression, and make them out as follows:—

Head, ears, eye, and expression	50
Coat	20
Legs and feet	20
Size	10
Total	100

Mr. John Powers writes:—

My dear Packwood,

I should give—

Head, ears, eye, and expression	52
Legs and feet	20
Size	10
Coat	18
Total	100

As representative of Bonnie Scotland, the Collie's native land, whose breeders can boast of a glorious record in the cult of the Collie, Mr. Robert Tait writes:—

My dear Packwood,

I enclose my opinion on the points and their value.

Head, ears, eye	40
Coat	30
Legs and feet	20
General formation of the dog	10
Total	100

Mr. C. H. Wheeler's reply is unique; it embodies a novel conception on point judging.

My dear Packwood,

After devoting a considerable amount of thought to your inquiry *re* point judging, I cannot avoid arriving at the conclusion that such a system is impracticable, and no solution of a scale of points can be complacently arrived at.

For an unmistakable example, I would refer to the dog, Edgbaston Marvel, who in his best days easily defeated his strongest opponents in all points

BILLESLEY BRITON.

bar ears, which were only middling, and not really very bad; but I did not submit him to competition, knowing full well that, in decent company, the one defect was sufficient to spoil his chance, but, on the other hand, if point judging had been in vogue he would have been there, and as his only forfeit would have been about five points for ears, his points score would have placed him at the head of all show Collies of his day.

Personally, quality in head and expression, together with good ear carriage, are points in the Collie that are mostly valued by me, for the important reason that good heads and ears are the most difficult points to produce, and are the great factors in furnishing true type and character. Collies with common heads and middling ears, yet good in all other points, are very common properties.

I have, therefore, no hesitation in saying that in judging the breed, head and ears are the points that first attract my attention, and have the most potent influence in my estimation of the value of the merits of the respective competitors.

In any unlikely occurrence of point judging being demanded, the simplest way, in my opinion, to deal with points would be to arrange them as follows:—

Head and ears	36
Coat and tail	24
Body, legs, and feet	36
Style and character	4
Total	100

To assign as great a number of points to body, legs, and feet, as to head and ears, seems unavoidable, or else a badly deformed dog with good head, ears, and coat, would be able to defeat a dog with all perfect essentials bar head and ears.

I am perfectly aware that such extremes are unlikely to occur, but whilst such a possibility does exist, provision ought to be made accordingly.

Thuswise, in a dog with ears wretchedly bad, consequently spoiling the character of his head; and another dog with bandy legs, although the shape of body may be fairly good, the uniting of such rendering the contour intolerable, each dog would be penalised to a justifiable degree.

A ready way of proportioning the different degrees of forfeit would be found in a method grounded on the principle of graduating from one-twelfth to the full number of points to be dealt with under the different heads.

The provision of four points for style and character could be resorted to in the event of two dogs seeming on an equality, but the general appearance of one of the dogs having a more imposing aspect than that of the other.

The foregoing significant information is interesting and instructive to the uninitiated fancier. It clearly proves, as emanating from the fountain head of the most competent, that the novice breeder often attaches false values to the more easily produced points of the Collie, namely, size, bone, coat, and flesh. This view seems justified by the preponderating number of unsuccessful exhibits, usually the property of novices, that are handsome but altogether lacking in quality of head. Quite recently the author was judging a big class of 15 Collies, and it is an absolute truth that everyone of them would have been a great champion had it been possible to have replaced bad heads with good ones. They were a beautiful coated, handsome collection, almost faultless behind the collar. Their heads alone made them almost unworthy of a prize. Though some were catalogued at low figures,

CH. PARBOLD PEACOCK.

no one would be tempted by their big staring eyes, sour expression, and big heads that to me always look more empty than does the quality, nicely-proportioned typical head.

Those dogs were almost valueless, yet had they been possessed of typical, perfect heads, their value would have been probably no less than £300 to £500 each. Their owners—novices—were proud in their mistaken opinions of the show merit of their dogs. They had probably bred hoping to get the class of Collie they had actually exhibited. To such the lessons of these arguments are prescribed.

These writings are not written in any spirit of opposition to the Collie Club standard of points. It was recognised on their adoption that they were not likely to be acted upon by any judge in making his awards.

Enlightenment promptly acted upon will reward the operator with greater success in his breeding of the Collie, and this will be realised if more attention is devoted to quality and type of head as the greatest essential in a show Collie. It is the hardest to breed correctly. The other desirable essentials need not be sacrificed in the least; perfect one, and retain the others.

THE OVERSHOT or undershot mouth is a great fault in any Collie, but a deal of unnecessary correspondence has appeared at times in the canine press. It usually comes from the lay fancier, who attaches more importance to the evil than its actual force justifies.

There need be no fear or doubt about the possibility or probability of the pig-jawed Collie ever becoming even admissible from a show point of view when the Collie with a perfect mouth is present capable of approaching him in point of merit, and there is little likelihood of this often failing to happen.

A little reflection should convince any observant

exhibitor that there is no need for special precautions where there is no danger, and it has appeared that there never has been, neither is there any danger of the pig-jawed Collie becoming even tolerable to the experienced fancier, at least when he is judging them.

Its popularity is impossible, as its evil influence and objectionable value are well appreciated by breeders and judges. The people who pay so much prolonged study to the pig-jawed Collie would spend their time more profitably in efforts to produce the perfect Collie.

Some of the greatest champions and most perfect mouthed dogs have been overshot in their puppyhood; in fact, large breeders have learnt by experience that many of the overshot mouths in puppies grow up as their canine teeth develop. Our only unbeaten champion has an absolute perfect mouth now, yet he was slightly overshot when he won his first championship. Some experienced breeders say that they like to see a puppy very slightly overshot, as in such cases the dog has a nicer finished muzzle, with no squareness or lippiness, so objectionable, but not uncommon. It amounts to this, that the overshot mouth is estimated at its true value by experienced fanciers, but not by novices.

CH. ANFIELD MODEL.

Chapter IX.—

The Principles of Breeding.

THE BREEDER, yes, he is my hero; but it is the breeder who uses his wisdom in consort with nature in the perfecting of the typical Collie, without any sacrifice of the essential characteristics of the beautiful and useful variety.

The most successful breeder, the strong man of the fancy, is he who proves his fidelity to the vital interests of our favourite by preserving and also improving that which is typical and desirable. A great fancier is a breeder and fancier at heart. He esteems the Collie as a Collie, not for its monetary value. It may be truthfully written that no one can feel the same degree of delight in the beauty of the production as he who has toiled hard, patiently, and willingly to produce it.

The owner by purchase can never hope to experience the same feelings of pride and pleasure as does the breeder-owner. The successful breeder-judge is the best authority to judge your dog generally.

To succeed as a breeder means success as an exhibitor. Successful breeding and exhibiting invariably mean the early making of a popular, competent judge. The breeder gets the most real pleasure out of the hobby. The successful breeder-exhibitor-judge will sooner or later earn the confidence and admiration of the Collie world.

As a Collie fancier I have no greater ambition than to be a successful breeder. Unfortunately, the typical Collie's preservation has at times been seriously jeopardised by the unorthodox methods of the enterprising new designer, who has not hesitated to ignore the principles of breeding. Inventive minds have had visions of a new

royal road to success and fortune, and influenced by selfish motives and no love for the breed, they have polluted the blood with the idea of arriving at some imaginary Collie Eldorado. It is recognised and admitted in the inner circles of the fancy that experiments have been practised by foreign alliances, the nature of which should be obvious to any observant fancier who is a regular attendant at our shows.

The unqualified judge has innocently often encouraged the breeding of exaggerations that are not necessary or desirable in the Collie. Happily, there are substantial reasons to show that the danger is passing away. Of late the arrival of some truly typical Collies seems to have caused a reaction in their favour. Our judges have realised the danger, and they, together with the oldest breeders and fanciers, now demand that they must not be sacrificed on the altar of the unwise; consequently we are getting better supplies of typical, beautiful quality Collies than ever before in the history of the show dog. Breeders should have less difficulty in deciding upon their mating propositions, as we have at the period of writing some truly typical sires. It is safe to prophesy that there will be an unusual harvest of good youngsters in the near future, for the leading stud dogs of the day are certain of distinction as sires by the merit of their offspring.

BREEDING.—It is an encouraging time, for the future is full of promise for the thousands that find the greatest happiness in devoting their leisure moments to the breeding of the show Collie. It is really surprising when one reflects on the wonderful patience of amateurs, and the perseverance shown in their breeding operations, pursued often under unfavourable conditions, what joy they experience and show in trifling success, what grit and renewed hope in

CH. SQUIRE OF TYTTON.

rude disappointments. They are the men who carry the heaviest weight in the fancy. They are comparable to Tommy Atkins, who carries the gun, and does the fighting, gets very little in return, but fights on. Breeding is, no doubt whatever, a very fascinating pastime if carried on under favourable conditions. Whether it be at the palatial kennels of royalty, at a homestead of the woodlands, or in a little backyard near the city, a healthy, promising litter of Collie puppies playing and rollicking about is a delightful sight. They provide ever changing interest, changes are noted, champions selected, relegated and reinstated as favourites from day to day. And if the litter is finally disappointing, much pleasure has been experienced. There is much to be learnt from a study of a litter of puppies from day to day. The fancier anxious to get some knowledge on the variation of type has ample material in the average litter to learn from. One litter may contain a sweet expressioned puppy, that any observant person should be able to recognise quality in; another may have a regular yard dog, sour look, that is as distinct from the other as sour milk is from sweet fresh. It is natural variation, and much may be learnt from it by any observant, intelligent fancier. It is a good home study on type for any handicapped breeder.

Successful breeding operations must in a great measure be dependent upon the breeder knowing exactly what he desires to produce. He naturally aspires to something higher than mere breeding, therefore it is not sufficient that he should simply procure two pedigree Collies, and endeavour to succeed by common multiplication; thousands do this and fail. It is better to get some knowledge of the ideal he intends to breed for. Novices would not experience so many disappointing results if they devoted more attention to acquiring some knowledge of the typical show Collie. A breeder's chances of success are

much brighter if he has a grip of his subject. If he is able to recognise at a glance the essential qualities that are exclusively the heritage of the ideal he proposes to breed for, he will be in a more favourable position to devote his abilities and knowledge to the science of breeding than if working in the dark. Knowledge of his subject will enable him to recognise the ideal, and work to it in practice.

The old proverb, "All that glitters is not gold," may be applied to show Collies. There is the spurious article on the market; it is like cheap jewellery, showy "and deceptive" to the novice. The path of the beginner is indeed treacherous. At times we have had big winners, ay, even champions, that have been known and openly spoken of as "flat catchers," "wrong ones," "fleeting sensations," and similar meaning titles pregnant with meaning in condemnation of the dog from a typical point of view. I once heard a judge reply, in answer to a remark made to him, that his dog (a champion) was not his (the owner's) type; that he knew it, that he liked the right type as well as any one; "but, you know," continued the judge, "the novice will patronise the winning dog; to him he is the best." There is a lot of sense in the argument, but nothing very satisfactory for the novice. However, the faint illumination of the path may awaken him to the necessity of learning something of his subject before venturing too far along this path of pitfalls.

Though practical experience is of the greatest value, theory is an invaluable adjunct; co-jointly, it is a great force, as with practical experience and a store of learning gained by a knowledge of the scientific laws of breeding, a breeder should have a great advantage over the man who merely drifts along. A careful scrutiny of the general theory of breeding, with its teachings, will provide a useful aid in any kennel.

CH. WISHAW CLINKER.

It is most important that the inexperienced should be impressed with the importance of learning all that is available on the law of ancestral inheritance, as it is an accepted truth that heredity is a powerful influence in the development of any live stock. In no stock does it seem more active than in the breeding of the show dog.

I am of the opinion that it is responsible for more results than is generally admitted among breeders of Collies.

The observant breeder will sooner or later have to recognise the principle of heredity as a great factor in his breeding operations. Carefully kept records go to show that the offspring may resemble the sire or the dam entirely, or some portion of the litter may follow one of the parents, and the remainder resemble the other parent. It may be that the puppies will not follow the sire or dam in type or colour, but throw back to some more distant relation. Authentic average statistical records of inheritance give results that are accepted, as a general rule, that the two parents together contribute, as averaged, one-half of every attribute inherited, one quarter being ascribed to each parent.

The four grandparents are responsible for one-fourth, or, separately, their share is one-sixteenth each. The eight great-grandparents are interested in the descent to the extent of one-eighth, and so on, of the total heritage of the average offspring.

Experiments and carefully kept records give this as an average, but a more general experience will show that there is very great variation, which makes any positive guidance in breeding quite impossible. This is the experience of all breeders of dogs I feel sure.

However, the lesson of the convincing proofs that "blood will tell" is that considerable benefit may be derived from careful attention being paid to the more

essential characteristic qualities of the ancestry when contemplating a breeding proposition.

The evidence of hereditary influence is absolutely conclusive. In science it is admitted, by practical experience it is proved, and the sooner the beginner accepts the inevitable and suits his methods of breeding to counteract the evil side of this hereditary tendency, the sooner will he overcome one of the deepest problems in the breeding of the Collie.

The author has watched the action of this force in his own breeding operations, and what is written on this subject is guided and confirmed by the knowledge of considerable practical experience.

It is better to start breeding with a fair quality typical bitch, with a pedigree that shows progenitors of the quality desirable type of three or more generations, than from a perfect bitch, a chance production, that had coarse, bad blood as her heritage.

IT IS INSTRUCTIVE to reflect on the result of the world's production of the pure-bred show Collie. The actual number of puppies whelped must be enormous. Thousands of clever men are to-day professionally, and otherwise, endeavouring to produce a Collie capable of taking the highest honours. This almost numberless crowd of workers have generally every facility in their choice of breeding stock. Some have spent fortunes in vain. The total annual expenditure in the United Kingdom must reach a formidable amount. Think of it all, and now analyse the result. Take the great number of young stock that breeders esteem promising enough to register at the Kennel Club. There is a long monthly list. Alas! how many of these ever figure in the prize lists of our leading shows? We know that very few indeed do. Think again. Of this enormous annual production it is seldom that even annually one classical specimen appears. The best

CH. HEACHAM GALOPIN.

of the period is by force of circumstances (not always by merit) a champion, but not necessarily a genuine flyer. Few have been seen since Emerald's day. The reader asks why this uneven, inadequate return. The reason for the majority of failures is clearly to be found in the evil influence of heredity, often assured through the carelessness of the breeder; secondly to bad judgment in mating, to unsuccessful rearing, and a heavy death roll. Most of these causes are preventible.

It may be truthfully written that the cultivation of the show Collie is only in its initial stage. Fifty years hence the breed should have a more aristocratic heritage, consequently the hereditary influence for good should be as strong as the influence for evil is now.

Beginners must realise that objectionable characteristics are transmitted just as freely as are the desirable ones; that the tendency for good or evil often has its origin in some remote ancestor, and the more remote the more likelihood of evil being the greater force.

The breeder should guard against this influence for evil by a most studious attention to the quality and pedigree of his breeding stock and their ancestors. If they are typical quality Collies, he can do no more than hope for the best.

Prepotency is another remarkable power possessed of some dogs, which is a marked tendency of breeding stock to stamp their offspring with some special characteristic which may be traceable to immediate parents, or anywhere along the line of ancestry. There is often evidence of the action of prepotency appearing in the really good Collies that we see often at the head of affairs, but which are known to old breeders to be chance bred ones. The writer has recently had a striking instance of the power of this phenomena. One of my best bitches, possessed of a lovely head, and inbred to exquisite headed stock, when

mated to the highest quality dogs available, without any variation bred offspring of a coarse, bad type, always alike, and thorough wrong ones. The bad blood operative was no nearer than the line of great-grandparents.

Another instance of prepotency in a bitch is exemplified in Billesley Bessie, the dam of Billesley Beautiful, Bridegroom, and other winners. She is by Ch. Barwell Masterpiece ex Ch. Old Hall Beatrice. Her colour is black, tan, and white, and her sire and dam were the same. The colour also predominated in the grandparents. In type of her offspring, she invariably threw to her grandsire, yet in colour she never bred a black, tan, and white in the four litters that I bred from her, all being sable, plentifully marked with white. This and other actual experiences clearly demonstrate to my mind that a bitch may without variation continue to transmit in full strength the likeness of some distant ancestor, the resemblance even including colour—or in type one, in colour another. Having grasped the truths and the teachings of a careful study of heredity (and the canine journals now provide their readers with contributions from eminent authorities on the science of heredity, so that the novice cannot excuse his ignorance on the subject to the want of opportunity to learn), the beginner may with the aid of a typical bitch, and good judgment in mating her, expect good results.

INJUDICIOUS MATING is responsible for numberless failures. It has overstocked the country, almost the civilised world, with good-bred bad Collies.

Even old breeders are apt to send their bitches to the fashionable sire with little or no study of the heredity possibilities of the union, or whether the deficiencies of the one are likely to be made up by the other. By some novices it is counted sufficient if the union be of two with

CH. OLD HALL BEATRICE.

show records. This is not in accordance with the accepted tenets of the principles of breeding.

The most common failing that may be primarily responsible for so much injudicious mating is a want of knowledge of the Collie.

So many drift on with no particular goal ahead, an absence of aptitude or instinct for type, with no mental sketch of what they want—such breeders never succeed, and hardly deserve to. There is also the injudicious mating by the man who juggles with our beloved Collie. He ignores all orthodox principles of breeding in a wanton attempt to produce a sensational show dog. He talks of nothing but inches at shoulder, inches of head, and weight, more profitable in a bullock than a Collie.

The fruits of this sort of injudicious mating are nothing less than a curse to a beautiful variety. The breeder's aim in mating his bitch should be to combine desirable characteristics, and to eliminate that which is undesirable and foreign to the typical quality Collie. The breeding material directly concerned should be good, excelling, if possible, in the most influential reproductive attributes. The head and expression should certainly be of the highest quality. If circumstances make it impossible to get a bitch fairly perfect in all points which is desirable, it is absolutely imperative that the pedigree of the immediate stock and their ancestors should be as typical and untainted by evil as possible.

If the breeder is qualified, and will take the trouble to positively follow on these lines of breeding in mating his bitches, he will surely enjoy a full measure of success in his operations.

It is their own fault if they stubbornly pursue more careless, unprofitable methods unconsciously, and when the awakening eventually comes they find they have actually been breeding along the lines of coarse, undesirable stock,

and cultivating disappointment when a little study at the start would have influenced happier results.

Sufficient has been written to show that success is likely to be attendant the earliest upon the breeder who is thoughtful and able to discern what he should breed for and what to reject, who by weighing every possibility of the mating when in the stage of proposition endeavours to ensure success. Yes, this is the breeder who deserves it, and invariably does suceed.

CONSANGUINITY is another influence that should not be carelessly passed over. It means inbreeding to blood relations, and is not without its value both in effect for good and evil. Some writers warn their readers that in practice it is calamitous.

I recognise that a long course of in-and-in breeding would mean degeneration—impotent dogs, barren bitches, freaks, puny, weakly puppies would be the outcome if carried on immoderately. It may be that inbreeding to any extent is best left to the experienced breeder.

The novice will eventually appreciate the value of rational inbreeding, but early in his career he is perhaps safer off dangerous ground.

Inbreeding is largely practised by experienced breeders. It is by this means that distinct successful strains are usually established as associated with many famous kennels. We know that in some live stock inbreeding has shown a tendency to develop the prepotency of the breed.

I am of an opinion, which has been formed from experiments and considerable study of the subject, that inbreeding as far as the Collie is concerned may be practised to a greater extent than actually happens, both in the interests of the owner and the Collie.

Admittedly inbreeding may be carried too far, but I am convinced that there is no evidence to justify any statement that it is practised to any dangerous or great extent.

CH. PARBOLD PAGODA.

On the other hand, one may get almost every day proof that a little more inbreeding to type and quality would do infinite good by improving considerably the quality of the average carded specimens seen at our shows.

We have no champion to-day inbred to the same extent as Ch. Eclipse was. He was one of the best sires of his time, and a great winner in the early 'eighties. His sire and dam, Charlemagne and Flirt, were litter brother and sister. Only recently an exhibitor at a small show inquired of me what was a suitable mate for the bitch he was exhibiting. In almost the same breath he began to argue that as she was full of quality, the best plan would be to put her to a coarse dog. As a matter of fact, his bitch was short of quality, and thus besides making the common mistake of counting his geese as swans, he showed incredible ignorance of the knowledge of the pursuit that he treated really seriously, and, as a working man, reminded me that he had lost a day to show his Collie. It is really very extraordinary, but one sees many cases analogous to the one given. One feels inclined to shake the man up a bit, to open his eyes and close his mouth, but, as a matter of fact, one is glad to pass on. Think what benefit a lesson or two on inbreeding, and the first principles of breeding, would be to such inexperienced fanciers.

ATAVISM is a tendency in offspring to return to the ancestral type. In special features the recurrence may favour objectionable peculiarities and weaknesses of very remote ancestors, though the generality of novices may pass the influence over as being a deeper study than is thought necessary in the small breeding kennel. It is worthy of attention, if nothing more than a mental note is made of the influence of the action, and commonsense methods of breeding will be the only effective way of avoiding its evil.

In most kennels where breeding is carried on extensively remarkable instances of the force of atavism occur.

Recently one of my Collie bitches bred a puppy with a perfectly natural bobtail—a Collie. A Birmingham breeder advised me but a few days ago that his bitch, a well-known winner, had given birth to a natural bobtailed Collie. This is not a very rare experience with breeders, at least, it is not in the Birmingham district. The writer has bred several. Now, in both instances named the pedigree can be traced for at least a dozen generations, covering something like twenty-five years, without any of the actual stock concerned having been bobtailed. Some thirty years ago bobtailed Collies were not uncommon in the Birmingham and Midland districts, and a few years ago an attempt was made to revive interest in them. The Northern and Midland Sheepdog Club made some provision for them, but they seem to have passed from the memory and recognition of the latter day fanciers.

They are in no way different to the rough coated specimen, except for being naturally minus the long tail. They certainly look quaint, and every inch a Sheepdog. To me they would make a very pleasing revival.

To return to the apparent action of atavism, the above and many other incidents in my knowledge go to prove that it is an active force attendant on most kennels.

THE BROOD BITCH.—The stereotype advice, Do not breed from any bitch at her first season, would be more acceptable if not used in a general way as applying to all varieties of dogs. It is sound advice when applied to large breeds that are bred and reared under artificial conditions, as it does not seem wise to breed from bitches at the first season which are not fairly on the way to maturity during their puppyhood. But even here nature would make us out to be unnaturalists. I claim to esteem the Collie sufficient to be absolutely proof

BILLESLEY BEAUTIFUL.

against any desire to risk advice that would be likely to prove detrimental in practice. There are badly reared, very weakly Collie bitches that it would be inadvisable to breed from at any time, and absurd at the first season, but my experience of the healthy, robust Collie is such as to justify the conclusion that, as a general rule, when they are big enough and prepared by nature's force, they are old enough, and when they are old enough they are usually big enough. You may be advised not to expect success from aged animals; this is not consistent with many well known facts. Old Cockie was nine years old before he distinguished himself as a sire. A more up-to-date success of the progeny of an aged bitch is found in Ormskirk Ideal, which bred the winner, Ormskirk Olympian, the sire of Ch. Wishaw Leader, after she had turned six years old.

If the recruit has not the knowledge or judgment to make a purchase himself, it will be better for him to trust himself in the hands of a trustworthy old fancier, whose Collies are known to be invariably of the quality-right type. Though it is preferable to breed from a bitch as near perfect in all essentials as possible, with as desirable a pedigree as it is possible to procure, it does not follow that very big odds are against the breeder of modest means who cannot afford to pay fancy prices for his breeding stock.

It is said that money makes the proverbial mare go; true it is that money will usually buy a good Collie, but admittedly it of itself will never breed one. Good judgment is priceless in breeding valuable stock.

The breeders of moderate means usually breed on a quiet, enlightened, methodical system, and they can show the best record of breeding successes. These breeders are not prominent in the fancy, yet they form some of the vital members of the great body of fanciers. To this class of recruit the advice is, See that your brood bitch has a good

quality typical head, a pure, acceptable pedigree, in accordance with the earlier teaching of this chapter.

It is better, of course, to breed from one perfect if obtainable. The average of good offspring should, by consent, be higher, but where this is not possible the breeder may hope by careful mating to right such failings in the bitch as prick ears, low ears, and shortness of coat. Lightness of bone, faulty feet and movement, are more often due to unsuccessful rearing than to hereditary influence. An expensive bitch may or may not prove a good brood bitch, although I would sooner breed from one of the best if I had the selecting of her and her mating.

An inexpensive bitch often has proved mother to champions, and frequently a very valuable, wonderful brood bitch is valueless as a show specimen, and quite inexpensive to buy. Edgbaston Bess, the dam of Ch. Portington Bar None and other noted winners, cost £1.

Billesley Bessie, the dam of Billesley Beautiful, Bridegroom, and other winners, cost under the hammer £1.

Billesley Beau Ideal, the dam of Barwell Brilliant, sold by the writer for £200, was bred from a bitch that cost 7s. 6d., and from a show point of view it was, perhaps, only a trifle under their value. But, note you, in each instance these bargains excelled in head qualities and the purity of their pedigree. Costly bitches have often proved utter failures in the author's kennels, but there have been exceptions.

THE SEASON FOR BREEDING.—The season of the year is a potent influence in the breeding of stock. The spring is when nature sings her love song, it is her great mating time; spring is the natural time for reproduction. This is not only the time for breeding, it is the season you must not miss if you contemplate breeding a litter of puppies at all. The breeder with limited accommodation will do well to wait for the turn of the

CH. ORMSKIRK CHARLIE.

year before mating his bitch, if possible, as if the union takes place about February the puppies would open their eyes in a world of sunshine, with the warm days growing with them. There is no doubt about it, puppies thrive and do better in the spring than in the fall of the year. The percentage of failures and deaths is far greater in the winter months, even where kept in artificially-heated kennels, which I do not believe in. The spring being the accepted time, the recruit should be prepared as the season approaches. He has a grip of the principles of breeding, a brood bitch, the springtime coming, now he must mate her.

THE STUD DOG.—The selection of a sire of your prospective litter is of great moment; the final selection is pregnant with consequences. It is better not to breed at all than do so in a thoughtless, haphazard, innocent way.

It is obvious to any fancier who has kept a dog at the service of the public, that a great number of novices decide the choice of the dog by a mere shuffling of a pack of stud cards. Many never see the dog they use, but the mode of selection is a reference to the stud columns of the Press, where good Collies are always advertised. Numbers of stud cards and other particulars are obtained. It is difficult to find one that is not described therein as the best Collie living. It would seem that some owners try to make up the deficiencies of their dogs by their graphic descriptions of the ideal. It is conflicting to the uninitiated beginner, but with his eyes open he can only carry his extra weight to victory by watchfulness and perseverance.

Allowing that the breeder has made a mental note of the arguments which show that a very large percentage of failures are due to injudicious mating, and having grasped the teachings of heredity and the importance of breeding, he will understand the vital importance of leaving nothing to

chance in the choice of a stud dog. The truism that what is worth doing at all is worth doing well, is applicable here, and will repay for extra trouble, and, if necessary, expense to find a suitable procreator of progeny which must decide the measure of success he will enjoy in the near future. I cannot impress too strongly upon the novice the importance of a wise selection. The mating of my own bitches has always meant a prolonged study, and to-day, though to see a good Collie means thoughts of possible breeding propositions, after a quarter of a century of not unsuccessful breeding, it is still my most difficult and earnest study.

The means to be adopted to decide selection must depend upon circumstances and the opportunities of the owner. If he is able to attend our shows the choice is easy, but if he is unable to see the animals, why, he is considerably handicapped, but by the aid of photos., pedigrees and reputations of the dogs, and the advice of a sound, reliable old fancier, judicious mating should be possible.

Do not delay the selection of a sire until my lady is due. Always be looking for a suitable mate at any time; everywhere have one eye for one, and the other ever watchful for a typical dog suitable in essential characteristics, and of blood that will tell favourably.

Do not be above courting the opinion of older men in the fancy than yourself, providing they are successful breeders. Some judges and exhibitors are not, therefore qualified to teach you that which they themselves have not learnt.

Do not be tempted by the amount of the dog's fee. A bad litter will probably cost you treble the highest fee.

Do not put blind faith in show records. The best sire of all time was absolutely minus one.

Do not think for one moment that a dog with a show

CH. EDNA.

record is unlikely to be a great sire. If bred right he should be.

Do not overlook the assistance a good photo. of the dog you may use, but never see in the flesh, will be to you, although they at times flatter and deceive, or may not do justice to the subject.

Do not allow your bitch to get bacon fat, and then blame the stud dog should she fail to breed. You will have reaped as you have sown.

Do not forget that the dog you finally select should be strong in points in which your bitch is weak. He should be healthy, a proved stockgetter, a good dog with a good reputation, and if you send your bitch and leave everything to the owner, he should also be of good repute.

ŒSTRUM, THE PERIOD OF HEAT. The welcome sign of this season is readily recognised by the coloured discharge from the vagina, and it is advisable to anticipate this condition by regular examination of the bitch at least twice a week some time before your record or memory will remind you she is due. A large number of failures are due to ignorance or carelessness at this period. Nature provides signs that are simple to understand if trouble is taken to notice the different stages of œstrum. The changing condition of the vagina and discharge is a true indication when to mate. It is positively astounding to learn of the experiences of owners of dogs which are at public stud. Bitches arrive for service which are not in season, and show no signs of œstrum. Others arrive which are in the last stage, "a day too late to ensure success." I have had as many as twenty almost worthless specimens out of a total of twenty-one visitors. In many instances it would be charitable (though it would cause chaos in practice) if the stud fees were returned and the bitches sent to the lethal chamber. Others are unwholesome and unhealthy. Not so long ago a well known

champion dog contracted skin disease, that proved disastrous to the dog's show career, through an alliance with an affected visitor. Another unpromising condition of bitches for breeding is obesity, a condition of excessive fatness, which should be avoided by dieting and exercise. They should be in nice working, active, healthy form. This throws some light upon the cause of numberless failures which a better knowledge of the principles of breeding might prevent, and reduce the dismal failures to a minimum.

It is better to be present at the actual service; it is for obvious reasons advisable and more satisfactory to the owner. If unable to be present or send an attendant, remember, it is far better to send her too soon than too late.

If the breeder is guided by these lessons he will deserve success, and the owner of the stud dog he has patronised will doubtless esteem his wisdom and feel most grateful accordingly.

GESTATION. The period of carrying young may be calculated to expire on the sixty-third day after conception, which may be counted from the first service if more than one has occurred. During the early portion of this period a natural life of freedom, and nothing more than ordinary feeding, are all that is necessary or advisable.

About four weeks before she is due to whelp, increase the number and improve the quality of meals; a little and often is best. As she becomes heavy she may not voluntarily take as much exercise as is good for her, but she cannot in reason very well get too much steady exercise. Therefore, take her out with you when walking, and encourage anyone of your household to take her with them to the post, to the butcher, and all such short errands, for there is a good deal of interest and pleasure in expectation, especially as centred in a healthy, promising condition of

BEAUTY OF TYTTON.

a pregnant favourite Collie, and if you are to have success and pleasure in realisation, why, this is the time to use your brains in partnership with Nature to convert anticipation into a delightful realisation, and get a lovely litter of puppies. Under commonplace conditions, as happen where but one dog is kept, and she lives a more natural life, with more varied diet and more unlimited exercise than is the case with bitches kept in large breeding kennels, the foregoing treatment should prove successful. It is the large breeder who experiences the most trouble in the production of fine healthy litters.

There is a phenomenon known as "the squeaks"; it is a scourge that is attendant upon every breeding establishment where bitches are kennelled and fed under artificial conditions. I am convinced by my own observation, inquiry and experience, that this trouble is the greatest evil and the most prolific death agent encountered in the cultivation of the Collie. It claims its victims wholesale. It is no new evil that can be classified as the degenerate fruits of inbreeding, for there is evidence that it was active in destruction considerably over twenty years ago. Science has provided us with very little enlightenment on the cause, prevention, or cure. This probably is partly due to the fact that very little is heard of the losses of litters of puppies a few days after they are born. Breeders are somewhat accustomed to the experience, and they soon get over their short but acute disappointment. Often there is a reason for secrecy, as novices have a weakness for blaming the sire of the litter, which is foolish. However, little is heard of the numerous cases of bitches whelping apparently well nourished puppies which all die in a few days of "the squeaks." Our best known breeders lose heavily. In my own kennels scores of litters have died, all with identical symptoms, and one is frequently hearing of other fanciers having exactly the same

experience. The importance of learning the cause and a prevention is obvious, and some years ago my own disastrous experience determined me to go deeply into the study. It seems not a little strange that the most instructive contribution on the trouble, its cause and prevention, was written by an American, Mr. Arnold Burges, in 1886, and what was written twenty years ago is absolutely in agreement with every detail of the diagnosis of the disease to-day. The fact that the puppies die at an age when they cannot apparently be affected by outside influences, and that all exhibit the same symptoms, points directly to some condition of the dam as the cause of such fatality, for no matter how strong the puppies may be at birth, they all meet with the same fate, death.

The first symptom in the puppies is a blue tinge of the abdomen, followed quickly by loss of appetite, faint moaning or squeaking. They stretch themselves out generally on the belly away from the dam. They squeak continuously, always ending in death. After death they present a flattened appearance, as if crushed. These are known as squeakers; my experience is that they invariably die. Post-mortem examination either shows the bowels entirely empty or filled with a thin watery fluid, all the tissues being pale and flaccid, as in cases of starvation. The only conclusion that can be arrived at is that there has been a lack of nutrition. In a few cases there may be discovered signs of irritation in the bowels, portions thereof being slightly red and inflamed. This indicates not only lack of nutrition, but also the presence of poison of some kind. Thousands of puppies die annually with these same symptoms.

THE CAUSE OF DEATH is due to the acidity of the dam's milk, which is deprived of its nutritive qualities. Milk forms one or two weeks before the bitch whelps, a considerable quantity accumulating, and this kills the

puppies. If the milk is drawn just previous to whelping it appears thick, is greenish in colour, and often has a faint odour indicating that it is not fit for food. General principles show that the trouble is a secretion of uric acid in such excess that it is not all discharged from the system through the usual channels, and the residue passes into the milk.

PREVENTION. It is proved that the trouble is entirely due to the condition of the dam, and as there is practically no remedy for squeaks in the puppies, it is apparent that prevention is the relief, and this must be assured by attention to the bitch while in whelp. The treatment necessary to prevention will be unfolded as the reader understands the cause. The unnatural poisonous condition of the dam's milk, which proves fatal to the puppies shortly after birth, is due to the unnatural life that the bitch invariably leads in a kennel where valuable dogs are kept. Artificial conditions cannot be avoided in a large breeding kennel, and often the same unnatural life is forced upon the bitch, even where only one or two animals are kept near large towns, where little accommodation, freedom, and fresh air are available. Unsuitable food or overfeeding, insufficient exercise, a general lack of natural conditions of life are the undoubted real causes of the trouble. The condition is unknown to the cur bitch, and this immunity is apparently due to the virtues of the outcast's life companion, freedom, which keeps her system clear of the fatal impurities. The natural life of the Collie is one of freedom and activity, and it is really astonishing the amount of ground a Collie or any breed of dog will cover if allowed unfettered freedom. No system of confined exercise can be said to be natural.

Having shown the cause of the fatal condition of the dam's milk, it should be obvious that prevention is to be found by taking a leaf out of Nature's book. Acting on

the foregoing theory, I have for some years sent all my bitches away about four weeks before they are due to whelp. They go to cottagers, with no other instruction than to take care not to lose them. They have their liberty, scraps from the house, and at the most successful cottage walk I have learnt that they give the bitch a little at each meal, which amounts to four meals a day, but as they are very poor people the fare cannot be rich. The bitches live a natural life of freedom, with plain, common sense feeding, always in the charge of a female. The success of this plan is proved by the fact that I have not been troubled with squeakers for some years; in fact, I have invariably had fine healthy litters, which have thrived and done remarkably well as young puppies.

PRECAUTION. It is difficult and, perhaps, impossible for some breeders to adopt the measures for prevention, and no doubt in some instances where every effort is made on Nature's lines, failures will occur. It will therefore be most useful to know the best precautionary measures that may be adopted in all cases. One of the symptoms of the unhealthy condition of the bitch is feverishness and loss of appetite.

TREATMENT. Experiments show that alkaline treatment is the most successful, as it neutralises the acidity of the milk. A few days before the bitch is due give sufficient Epsom Salts to open bowels without violent purging. It is often found that in slight cases Epsom Salts have proved efficacious. The dose should be half the quantity usually prescribed for an adult human being. However, the best alkali is bicarbonate of soda, and this is the most effectual treatment. Dose of bicarbonate of soda 20 grammes, given three times a day in a little water or mixed with food. Should you find your litter showing any signs of the squeaks at birth, I recommend the milking of the bitch as dry as possible, and also immediate treatment as above.

Nature's remedy is preferable to man's, but the foregoing may be acceptable, as it deals with a great destructive element in the breeding of the Collie singularly neglected by scientific authorities.

PARTURITION. A few days before the bitch is due to whelp, if away, have her home, and at once introduce her to the already prepared kennel where she is to whelp. A boarded floor is most desirable; a straw bed may be added, but the bitch invariably scratches it away, and some bitches will for days before whelping be continuously scratching away at the boards as though by instinct they would burrow if unfettered by freedom. Her food should be good, given in small quantities and often. For a few days before I have often given fresh, raw, lean, good steak, and immediately before whelping fresh warm milk, as from the cow. If this is not at hand oatmeal gruel is beneficial, and encourages the milk both before and after parturition. Sheep's head broth, thickened with oatmeal, bread and milk or gravy, should be the staple diet for, say, three days, after which almost anything wholesome will not go amiss to a healthy mother.

Do not continually practise the canine physician; you will probably do more harm than good to your adult dogs, and kill more puppies than you cure.

Do not be foolish with your bitch. You will make her foolish, and she will then probably prove a foolish mother as well, at your expense of education.

Do not allow natural curiosity to disturb your young litter frequently; remember that they grow when sleeping.

Do not allow the mother to attempt to rear a big litter; she will probably rear a whole delicate family. Four are enough.

Do not act as though there is a severe penalty for concealment of canine births. Drowning is justifiable

suffocation by immersion that becomes a virtue when the victim is decrepit or physically inclined to degeneracy.

Do not under-estimate the great value of milk at any period of a Collie's life, but particularly with a bitch in whelp and with growing puppies.

Do not overlook the absolute truth that cleanliness is essential to healthfulness in your kennel.

Do not think all your geese are swans, and keep the bad ones to ruin the rearing by overcrowding your good ones.

PUPPIES. Assuming that you have a healthy litter of puppies, your first duty should be to see that they are left alone. Until they lap you must attend to them through the proper channel, the mother. It is astonishing the difference noticeable in bitches with puppies. The mother with a litter of "squeakers" will be restless, nervous, refuse food, and appear thoroughly to realise the hopelessness of her charge. The mother with a bonny, healthy family will look as contented, happy, and proud as her unfortunate sister will look miserable.

As soon as the puppies will lap start with unadulterated milk, warm as from the cow, strengthened by a proper proportion of Plasmon. You may continue this diet exclusively for an indefinite period. If you are able to feed your puppies on a plentiful supply of fresh pure milk, you need not trouble yourself about solids, especially when the puppies are young. I have had some enormous sized Collies reared entirely on milk, and the best walks I have at the time of writing are farms far from railway stations, where new milk is the sole diet until seven or eight months old. My bitch, Billesley Beautiful, was reared on milk until eight months old. The theory that milk breeds worms is exploded. When puppies have their freedom they also do well at a butcher's shop, where their food would consist of meat principally. I have also a good walk

which is a country baker's establishment. My experience convinces me that freedom, fresh air, and the healthful surroundings usually associated with country walks enable puppies to thrive and grow well upon almost any wholesome food.

WALKING. Though possessed of ample accommodation at my farm for rearing stock, I prefer walking my puppies, both from an economical and successful rearing point of view. It is possible to get puppies walked at 1s. 6d. per week in the country. If you rear them at home you will find one quart of milk per day, which will cost to buy at the lowest 3d., will soon disappear with a healthy pup. This represents 1s. 9d. per week, and my experience of rearing them at home where a number of dogs are kept is that unqualified success is seldom achieved. The puppies go wrong at about six weeks old, or on changing of their teeth, indigestion, worms, poverty, lice, and if death does not happen, the canine apothecary is patronised, and his compounds produce such marvellous results that the hopes of the owner soar high once more, but you may accept it as substantially correct that where there is urgent need for medicines the principle of rearing is wrong. In a wild state it is probable that more inbreeding happens than under cultivation, yet Nature provides its own preventative or remedy, and the closest parallel to a natural life is the free and open life, the usual conditions of rearing at a good country walk. If you require living testimony of the success of walking puppies, attend a meet of Foxhounds at cubbing time. They are all walked, and that gratuitously, yet no finer example of perfect rearing is possible than a pack of Foxhound puppies.

When the puppies are forward and healthy, as soon as there is evidence that they are getting but little sustenance from the mother, take the strongest out to walk. Though they be only five weeks old, most of my best puppies are

out at my country walks at this young age, and I have found it a great success. By the adoption of this plan the weaning and the walking are but one change, and they seem to have no check, but thrive wonderfully well. At most of my best walks the walkers seldom fail to impress me with the advice to be sure and let them have the puppies soon enough. Walking puppies is my plan of rearing. How to rear successfully where a number of dogs are kept with limited accommodation or under the usual unfavourable conditions associated with town life, is a problem but imperfectly solved by the writer's experience. Success is achieved under these conditions, but a record would show a huge total of failures. However, it is obvious that the essentials to success are liberty, cleanliness, common sense, attention to ensure vigorous health, and feeding that will not impair the digestive organs, to keep as near a natural life as possible.

THE DEBUTANT The reward sought by all, the inheritance of the thoughtful breeder, the recompense for perseverance, is realised. You are deservedly the proud breeder and owner of a prospective champion of the show ring—a meritorious, beautiful example of a beautiful variety —you probably own in your dog not only fame, but fortune; therefore take care lest both slip from your grasp.

First be certain that you have not mistaken mica for gold; both glitter. If you have not confidence in your own judgment, the merit of your puppy will soon be learnt by an analysis of varied competent opinion you have sought. You decide to show him, and you must prepare him by training, the first principle of which should be to accustom him to the surroundings and exigencies of show life, and the following few hints may aid you to a successful début: —

Do not be afraid to seek the opinion and advice of an

old tried breeder-judge on the merit of your youngsters. At the worst such fanciers are not cannibals.

Do not forget to register your selected show dog.

Do not leave his education until just previous to the show. You will regret it directly you get to the show with him, probably before.

Do not be impatient, hasty, or unkind, if he is slow in learning.

Do not forget that he is sensitive and easily terrorised by harsh, bullying, compulsory measures; kindness and patience, please. He is a Collie, give him a fair chance.

Do not wash him later than three days before the show, and not necessarily then; if so, in soft water.

Do not fail to get all the soap out of his coat.

Do not think the time or trouble of putting him in the hamper you intend to send him to the show in, for an hour or so, for a few days previous to despatch will be wasted; it will not, but will give him confidence which may get a prize.

Do not be unprepared when the appointed time for judging is at hand.

Do not take your eye off your dog when once before the judge, and especially the weak spots in your exhibit; watch them; never let them be apparent if careful handling can hide them.

Do not practise deception, but use every legitimate means to present your dog to the judge at the best possible advantage.

Do not practise hairdressing on a Collie's ears; it is not necessary, and often detracts from the character of the dog.

Do not write letters to the judge as a prospective customer, at least, just before the show.

Do not be patronising after success. A good judge thought more of your dog than of you when in the ring; if

you are too attentive to him after the judging, you invite him to have a poor opinion of you out of the ring.

Do not fail to subscribe to the Collie Club; it has done much in the interests of the dog you adore.

Do not fail to use the same commonsense business ability in your hobby as is necessary in any serious undertaking.

Do not you think, readers, that the synopsis of this writing is: Master the intricacies of your pursuit, and not only command success at every point, but deserve it?

[THE END.]

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